

MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR IN NEW ENGLAND!

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Gay Community News

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Boston Elects **David Scondras** *A Gay City Councillor*

GayCommunityNews

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103-Vote Margin

Gay Man Wins Boston City Council Seat

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — The straight press here hasn't exactly noticed yet, but voters in this city's District 8 elected their first openly gay city councillor on November 15.

David Scondras, a veteran Fenway community activist, edged past former Carter White House aide Mark Roosevelt with a 103-vote margin out of 14,311 ballots cast, according to unofficial election commission figures.

"The city of Boston now has its first openly gay city councillor," declared Scondras to a jubilant group of supporters who gathered for an election-night celebration at the 1270, a gay bar in the district.

"What's truly important to me

is to thank the coalition that made this possible," Scondras said, noting that it was the combined efforts of tenants, women, blacks, Hispanics and "members of the gay community, who stuck together with me and pulled this thing off."

"What about straight white males?" yelled a supporter.

"Oh, listen, there were a lot of straight white males that helped us all the way through," Scondras acknowledged. "Have I left out anybody?"

"This is the beginning of a very exciting change in this city," Scondras told the crowd. "We're going to pull together a coalition the

likes of which Boston has never seen before and make Boston a place—I know you've heard this before, you're going to have to hear it again—make Boston a place that's accessible and open, with resources for *all* of us."

Roosevelt appeared at about 10:30 p.m. to congratulate Scondras and his supporters on their victory. "I think there is a real tide sweeping the city of Boston," Roosevelt noted, "and David was clearly more a part of that tide, in most people's eyes, than I was."

Roosevelt also addressed himself to the contentiousness and controversy which has characterized the close contest. "This was an extremely tough race," Roosevelt said. "I think given the closeness of it, I think given the fervor of you all and on the part of our supporters as well, given all that, it has been conducted at about as high a level as it could be. I am very grateful for that and I hope that you are very grateful for that."

Despite the closeness of the outcome, Roosevelt told *GCN* he would "probably not" ask for a recount unless he saw something in the returns that clearly showed an error in counting, or unless Scondras' margin of victory in the final reckoning came to fewer than 100 votes. Roosevelt said he expects the 103-vote gap will widen when the figures are checked and a missing precinct is added in.

"I don't want to prolong this and I don't want any bitterness," he explained.

Jack Hall, campaign manager for Scondras, told *GCN* his confidence about the race began growing about two weeks before election day. "We could just sort of feel the momentum," he said.

In the campaign preceding the



David Scondras

A 'Polite No'

Church Council Rejects Gay/Lesbian Congregation

By Christine Guilfooy

HARTFORD, CT — In what was described as a "polite no" by one delegate, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC) has failed in its bid to become a member of the National Council of Churches. In its action on November 9, the governing board of the Council voted to "postpone indefinitely" consideration of MCC to its membership.

The action culminates a process begun two years ago when MCC first applied for membership. MCC was established in 1968 and claims a membership of 25,000. It is estimated that 80% of that number are gay people. But, MCC welcomes a number of groups who have been disenfranchised by the more traditional organized religions.

The National Council of Churches was established 30 years ago and is composed of 31 Protestant and Orthodox churches.

Adam DeBaugh, a co-director of MCC's Department of Ecumenical Relations and a person who has been involved in the

membership bid since it began two years ago, told *GCN* that the outcome is considered a victory by MCC.

"Our goal has never been simply to be a member. The objective we have had is [to have] dialogue and discussion with the churches. This is the first time in history that the leaders of 32 different churches are talking with open lesbian and gay Christians. That is a miracle considering the churches' [attitudes]," said DeBaugh.

Leslie Phillips, an ordained MCC minister, told *GCN* that the language of the governing board's statement was "clearly conciliatory. It did not create an absolute parting of the ways."

Carol Fouke, the Director of News Services at the Council agreed, saying, "It was an attempt to be faithful to the members of the Council who are opposed [to MCC membership] without turning away the MCC, from whom the council and member bodies have much to learn."

Fouke made it clear that the Council wishes to continue the

relationship that it currently has with MCC. "Non-eligible members are brought to committees by invitation because they can provide a unique perspective," she said.

It is generally conceded that, had the governing board been forced to take a straight up or down vote on MCC membership, the MCC would have been voted down.

A particularly strong pocket of opposition came from the nine Eastern Orthodox churches which are council members. They had threatened to secede from the council if MCC was voted eligible for membership. In a clear reference to the impact of such a statement, the governing board commented following the vote, "The council cannot sustain the disruption to Christian unity which an eligibility vote could produce."

Although the council's membership committee had already declared MCC eligible, the issue repeatedly raised itself in discussion before the governing board.

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Scondras Victory Partyers cheer the results.

October 11 preliminary election, two candidates from the field of four—Scondras and former Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney Dennis Quilty—earned significant support from lesbians and gay men. That split in support resulted in a stalemate at the endorsement meeting of the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, and ironically, the Alliance endorsed no candidate in the city's most heavily lesbian and gay district. District 8, which stretches from the Waterfront through

downtown, Beacon Hill, the Back Bay and the Fenway to Mission Hill, numbers numerous lesbians and gay men, as well as straight liberals, among its residents.

By the time of the November 15 runoff, Scondras had added the BL/GPA endorsement to a long list of supportive liberal and progressive individuals and organizations. With Quilty out of the running, however, and the field narrowed to two candidates, the race became more focused. Although

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Dirty Tricks in District 2

BOSTON — In District 2, which includes the South End and South Boston, "moderate" candidate Michael Taylor lost by about 800 votes, out of 23,000 votes cast, to conservative anti-busing activist Jim Kelly. In the preliminary election, many lesbians and gay men had put their support behind South End liberal candidate Chris Hayes, who failed to make the runoff. Taylor has reportedly said he would be supportive of lesbian and gay issues, but felt he could not afford to make a public statement because it would be used against him in South Boston.

The District 2 school committee race provided a good example of what Taylor may have feared. A large advertisement published in the *South Boston Tribune* five days before the election carefully pointed out that candidate Paul Barrett, a teacher from South Boston, had accepted the endorsement of the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance and had given positive responses to the Alliance's questionnaire. According to the ad, Barrett had also said of court-ordered busing that "it's the law and we have to follow it." The ad accused Barrett of making liberal statements in the South End and omitting those statements when campaigning in South Boston.

"If district representation is telling people in one part of the district what they want to hear and deviously covering-up

those campaign positions in another part of the district, then we are in serious trouble," read the ad. "Paul Barrett has not been open with the people of South Boston about his positions and endorsements."

Barrett's opponent, South Boston undertaker Joe Casper, told *GCN* he "had nothing to do with the ad." The ad was signed by eleven people, including Jane Duwors, acting president of the South Boston Information Center.

Asked if he thought the advertisement, published at too late a date to make a printed response possible, was unfair, Casper criticized Barrett's behavior. "He said that he would be honored and proud to be endorsed by the lesbian and gay alliance," Casper claimed, "but he's not acting that way. I consider that to be an unfair campaign tactic, because he didn't tell the truth."

"I didn't go out of my way telling everybody," replies Barrett, "but at all of my fundraisers, I talked about it." Barrett said that included fundraisers in South Boston. But, he noted, "you target your endorsements."

Barrett added a criticism of the timing of the advertisement. "It was a situation that was brought up at a point in the campaign when my opponent thought it would affect the outcome," he said, "and chose not to discuss the issue earlier in the campaign."

— Larry Goldsmith

News Notes

quote of the week

"When I was in the military, they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one."

—Leonard Matlovich, commenting on the situation of gays in the military at a recent lecture sponsored by Dignity/Tidewater in Norfolk, Va.

cambridge elections

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The laborious procedure of counting the ballots under the unique system called proportional representation has ended here, a week after the November 8 election for city council, school committee, and three ballot questions.

In the city council, former school committee member Alice Wolf, who carried the endorsements of the Cambridge Civic Association and the Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Alliance, displaced incumbent councillor David Wylie, who also had the CCA and CLAGA endorsements. Wolf's election constitutes the only change to the council; incumbent councillors Walter J. Sullivan, Sandra Graham, Alfred Velucci, Frank Duehay, Leonard Russell, Daniel Clinton, David Sullivan and Thomas Danehy all retained their seats. Wolf came in second, a strong showing for a newcomer, while David Sullivan, a CCA- and CLAGA-backed incumbent who usually places near the top, surprised many by coming in eighth.

In the school committee race, newcomers Frances Cooper and Rena Leib, both CCA- and CLAGA-endorsed, placed first and second, respectively. Glenn Koocher, a controversial incumbent who this year lost his CCA endorsement and failed to get the CLAGA endorsement despite his support for lesbians and gay men, finished third. Alfred Fantini, Jane Sullivan and Joseph Maynard took the remaining three seats. Henrietta Attles, an incumbent who lost her CCA endorsement this year, was not re-elected. Attles reportedly lost the CCA endorsement in part because of her refusal to support or discuss policies of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual preference.

The Nuclear Free Cambridge Referendum, a voter-initiated measure which would have banned development and production of nuclear weapons within the city limits, lost by a 60 percent to 40 percent margin. A measure to allow the city to enter bidding on a cable television franchise passed by an extremely narrow margin of about 100 votes, and an advisory measure on tenants' rights passed easily.

glenn sticks foot in mouth, task force bites back

NEW YORK — Democratic presidential candidate John Glenn said on Nov. 3 that he did not favor extension of civil rights to gay men and lesbians and the National Gay Task Force has challenged his dismissal of homosexuality as "personal behavior."

NGTF executive director Virginia Apuzzo sent a telegram to Glenn which read, in part, "It is impossible to reconcile the fact that you take pride in your record on civil rights issues with your apparent disregard for the rights of 24 million Americans. Discrimination based on sexual orientation is an every day reality in America that must be addressed."

Ironically, Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-MA) is a principal sponsor of the federal lesbian/gay civil rights bill and is also a prominent supporter of Glenn. Apuzzo has noted Glenn's position to Tsongas, but no reply has been received from either Tsongas or Glenn.

hotline receives county money

MASON, MI — A lesbian and gay hotline in East Lansing was funded by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners last month. According to *The State News*, this marks the first time a lesbian/gay group has received direct funding from the county. And according to William Lawyer, president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights, Ingham County is the first county in the state to provide direct funding to the gay/lesbian community.

The \$1500 appropriation stirred up a bit of controversy concerning both the funding of a sexual minority and spending money that was left over from the 1984 budget recommendations. Regarding the former, one commissioner said, "What they do sexually is their business, but I object to using tax dollars to fund them."

And concerning spending extra money, a commissioner noted that the board did not have to spend the \$39,000 "just because it was there." The final vote on the funding package of \$24,000 which included the hotline and four other human service programs, was 11-9.

The volunteer-run hotline is two years old and has a budget of about \$4000. It operates Sunday through Friday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. and receives about 25 calls per night.

gay judge slapped with investigation bill

Minneapolis, MN — Minnesota Board of Judicial Standards issued on Nov. 2 its official recommendations in the case of Judge Crane Winton, according to the Minneapolis *Star-Tribune*. Winton's removal from the bench had preliminarily been recommended to the Minnesota Supreme Court, but the Board recommended as well that Winton repay the \$43,000 spent to investigate charges that he had hired prostitutes for sex.

In its report to the state's high court, the board cited as grounds for removal Winton's guilty plea last year to the prostitution charges, violation of the state's sodomy statutes and "consorting with male prostitutes, inviting them into his home, seeing them in his judicial chambers and socializing with them."

Winton, in the testimony last spring, said that he would not promise to obey the state's sodomy statutes in the future, but he did say he would not pay men for sex.

The Minnesota Supreme Court can mete out punishments ranging from private censure to removal or can find the charges without merit and take no action against him. A final decision in the case may take two more months.

key west elects gay mayor

KEY WEST, FL — A gay art dealer was elected mayor of this island resort popular with gay men and lesbians.

Richard Heyman, 48, a former City Commissioner, defeated Richard Kerr, 3605 votes to 3169. Kerr had mounted a campaign promoting his family ties, but Heyman said he didn't think sexual preference was an issue in the race.

Key West joins Laguna Beach, Cal. and Bunceton, Mo. in the elite circle of towns and cities with gay mayors.

no gay gentlemen?

LOS ANGELES — A gay housing rental service for the 1984 Olympic Games has been denied an ad in a national magazine, according to the *Gay News*.

Gay Housing LA '84, the first housing service to be accredited by the state real estate board to find temporary housing for Olympic spectators next year, was denied advertising space in *Gentlemen's Quarterly* because of the word "gay" in the name of the firm. The service specifically states that housing listed is available to anyone, regardless of sexual orientation.

Gay Housing said that GQ told them the word "gay" never appears in their magazine and they have no interest in knowing if any of their readers is gay.

Roberta F. Raeburn



NEW YORK — Barbara Gittings accepts her award for long service to the lesbian and gay community at the eighth annual awards benefit dinner hosted by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund on Nov. 7. Gittings edited the legendary first—and for many years, the only—periodical devoted to lesbians, *The Ladder*. She is a board member of both the National Gay Task Force and the Gay Rights National Lobby and heads the Gay Task Force of the American Library Association. Other honorees at the Lambda awards ceremony, held in the Joyce Theater, included the Hon. Richard Failla, administrative law judge in the city of New York, the Lesbian Rights Project and People with AIDS. In its selection of individuals and groups to honor, Lambda highlighted civil rights coalitions and the fight for lesbian and gay rights.

aids benefit cancelled

PHILADELPHIA — A Nov. 17 AIDS benefit with comedian David Brenner and singer Jane Oliver was cancelled due to a lack of ticket sales, according to the *Gay News*. A spokeswoman said that the Nov. 2 cancellation of the event was prompted by ticket sales totalling just half the number necessary to make the event successful.

In addition to the low ticket sales, though, the benefit had been beset with other problems, including high prices for tickets, confusion over performers and confusion over who was publicizing the event. A spokeswoman said she did not know when the event would be rescheduled.



gay and lesbian speakers bureau

BOSTON — The Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau recently hired Peg Lorenz to coordinate training sessions and speaking engagements throughout the Boston area. Lorenz, who has worked extensively in the Massachusetts battered women's movement, hopes to make the Bureau a more "visible and well-subsidized organization."

The bureau will conduct a training session for those persons who wish to become Bureau speakers. Orientation will be held on Dec. 11 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. To contact the Bureau for more information about the orientation, or to request a speaker, call 354-0133.

seventh nambla conference

BOSTON — The seventh conference and general membership meeting of the North American Man/Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) will be held here on Dec. 3 and 4. According to a press release issued by NAMBLA, this conference will focus on the group's history and, in particular, publicity about NAMBLA since December 1982.

The conference is not open to the public and is limited to NAMBLA members and guests. A public forum is planned for Saturday, Dec. 3. Registration for the conference will be \$30 at the door. For more information, call (212) 807-8578.

new york liaison to step down, rights commission shake-up

NEW YORK — The mayoral liaison to the gay and lesbian community of this city announced on Oct. 25 that he would soon relinquish "most or all" of his duties, according to the *New York Native*.

Herb Rickman, noting that he is battle-scarred and burnt out on government, said he will take on different duties at City Hall. He also said that he thought the functions of a liaison to the gay/lesbian community might be divided among several staff members in the future.

Rickman has had the unenviable job of explaining and defending Mayor Ed Koch's positions on issues of concern to gay men and lesbians in New York. He has run interference for Koch following the traditional annual defeat of the city's gay rights bill.

Rickman has come under fire from activists for putting too much distance between himself and the community. Rev. Karen Ziegler, head of the Metropolitan Community Church in New York, said, "It's time for a liaison that's more involved in the community."

In another city government department, the gay membership of the Human Rights Commission was shaken up on Oct. 25. Koch ousted David Rothenberg and appointed a black lesbian Joyce Hunter and a gay man, James Levin, to the Commission.

Rothenberg's term expired in Dec. 1982 and he was not reappointed, although three other commissioners whose terms expired at the same time were reappointed. Rothenberg has charged that he was not reappointed because he is running for a city council seat against Koch supporter Carol Greitzer.

Police Generating 'Mass Hysteria'

Gay Man Accused in Indiana Murder

By Jim Jackson

INDIANAPOLIS, IN — "They have destroyed my life. They have taken everything apart. I can never live a normal life again," said Larry W. Eyler, 30, a gay man from Chicago. He referred to police officials in Indiana and Illinois currently investigating the stabbing and strangulation deaths of as many as 27 young gay men. Eyler has been charged with one of those homicides. His attorney and supporters say he is a victim of overzealous police anxious to solve the murders which have troubled this two-state area.

Eyler entered a plea of innocent early this month to the murder of Ralph E. Calise, 28, whose body was found Aug. 31 in a field 25 miles north of Chicago. Calise was one of the latest victims in what police authorities in Illinois and Indiana are calling a "sordid" series of "John Wayne Gacy-type" slayings.

With the discovery last month of six additional bodies in northwest Indiana, the death toll now stands at 20 according to most police authorities. Officials in these states say that Eyler, now held under \$1 million bond, may be charged later with most or all of these slayings.

"Our investigators hope to solve up to 18 murders of young men, linking them to Eyler," said Lake County Sheriff Robert H. Babcox. "This type of sordid crime can be compared to the sadistic gratification that John Wayne Gacy must have enjoyed in his vicious crimes," he told reporters last month, "which are unsurpassed in the annals of recorded sexual murders and degradation."

Recently an Illinois investigator told a cable television news station that Eyler is a suspect in 51 Midwestern murders, while at the same time, police authorities in the same state and Indiana say independently that Eyler "may be" a suspect in anywhere from three to 21 killings.

Larry Eyler, a housepainter who also maintains a residence in Terre Haute, Ind. was arrested Oct. 28 when leaving a Chicago federal

court hearing. Ironically, the hearing concerned a lawsuit Eyler had filed against 11 police officers in Illinois and Indiana, charging illegal and discriminatory investigation practices; including unconstitutional search and seizure of property; detainment without charges or warrant; denial of basic legal rights; and continued harassment of him, his friends and family. Eyler's request at the hearing for the return of his truck and other belongings confiscated by police was denied.

"There are clear indications that this whole investigation is improper and orchestrated to ruin a young man's life, solely because the police don't have anything... and are blowing their own investigations by using unconstitutional methods," said Eyler's Chicago attorney, Kenneth K. Ditekowsky.

Ditekowsky contends that the investigation and Eyler's ensuing indictment are part of "a conspiracy to deny the right of privacy and basic civil rights... It is a campaign, really, nothing more than that. It's politically expedient in Lake County to prosecute a gay. It's politically expedient to charge someone with a large number of murders whether he's guilty or not."

Sheriff Babcox has emphasized in press conferences his belief that "Eyler fits the typical profile of the macho-type beer-drinking homosexual who has a hatred for himself because he is a homosexual." He believes Eyler is involved in 13 murders and expects more charges to be levied against him soon.

Five days after his arrest, Eyler pled innocent to the murder charge against him and asked for a rosary and a bible. Earlier, Babcox had forbidden him access to a Catholic bible, the rosary, and Holy Communion. The Lake County circuit court judge granted these requests, but refused to lower Eyler's bond of \$1 million, before he was ushered from the courtroom to face reporters and glaring television camera lights.

Eyler's arrest was the climax of a

three-month police investigation, in which the suspect, his friends, and his family were repeatedly questioned and reportedly harassed. The investigation began in July when an anonymous caller — later discovered to be a jealous lover, police claim — told the homicide task force assembled in Indiana that Eyler had committed the murders under investigation, then numbering only 13. Eyler was placed under close surveillance for two months. Police trailed him as he drove his truck thousands of miles between Indiana and Illinois cities, often cruising in gay bars and picking up hustlers and hitchhikers, they said.

On Sept. 30 investigators took Eyler into custody and confiscated his 1981 Ford pick-up truck on Interstate 65, only ten miles from the Lake Village site where four bodies would be unearthed 20 days later. He was detained for five hours and questioned — police say "interviewed" — for seven hours, then released with no charges lodged against him.

"The police have been verifiably harassing my client, my client's witnesses, friends, family, and even my client's priest," notes Ditekowsky. "Larry is being tried and prosecuted because of his sexual beliefs — because he's gay

— not because he is guilty. The police hold a pernicious...[and] criminal discrimination against him. They say he's gay because in Lake County that's equal to saying he's a dirty son of a bitch. That gives them [the police] a tie-in to Gacy. That's the mood they want to create. They want to create a lynch-mob mentality here."

He emphasizes the statements police made to the news media last month comparing Eyler to mass murderer John Wayne Gacy, another Chicago man now awaiting execution for the sex-related slayings of 33 young men in and around his suburban home. Gacy was convicted of more homicides than any other mass murderer in U.S. history.

Ditekowsky also charges that police raided Eyler's residences, confiscating furnishings and personal property without serving a warrant or providing an inventory of items taken. Further, he claims Eyler has been victimized by false and defamatory police statements intended to sway public opinion, or in Ditekowsky's words, "generate mass hysteria."

Police have alleged: that a 16-year-old youth had been found tied up in Eyler's truck; that Eyler would be charged for the 1978 sexual assault and attempted murder

of a 14-year-old Indiana youth, and the stabbing that year of Craig Long — also of Terre Haute — during a "bondage" sex scenario, plus the 1980 stabbing and attempted murder of Chicagoan Craig Townsend; that Eyler is a latent homosexual who fits — police said "to a 'T'" — a speculative FBI mental profile of an unstable, "Gacy-type," self-hating homosexual.

Ditekowsky dismisses the four assault charges as "impossible," citing not only statements from the victims themselves, but also the original police reports. As well, Ditekowsky, Eyler's witnesses, friends, and family members categorically deny the allegation of the suspect's "unstable" mental state. "[Larry] is not ashamed that he's gay. He says: 'If you're gay, Goddamnit, be gay, but don't be ashamed'," Ditekowsky said of Eyler.

Eyler's lover of about five years, now a department chairperson at a major university, agrees. He told one reporter: "Larry has an almost childlike innocence about him...[He] trusts everyone, is non-judgmental and enthusiastic of sentiment. He has never been anything but friendly."

Eyler's lawsuit also levels

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King Loses to Flynn, 'Rainbow' to Shine On

By Larry Goldsmith

BOSTON — You wouldn't know it from the jubilation at his election night party, but former state representative Mel King lost the race for mayor of Boston to city councillor Ray Flynn by a margin of nearly 2 to 1.

"You all obviously haven't seen the results," an emotional King told cheering supporters gathered at the Boston Sheraton. "It will be said that the Rainbow Coalition did not win, but it can never be said that it was defeated. We are going to work for Boston jobs for Boston people, for decent housing, for improved health care, for better schools and safer streets. We are going to continue the struggle to overcome racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, to meet the needs of people who are disabled and to deal with other forms of discrimination and exclusion."

Among the more than 3000 supporters who came to the Sheraton were significant numbers of lesbians and gay men who have been supporting King because of his longstanding and vocal commitment to their movement.

"I'm disappointed," said Holly Ladd, a lesbian attorney who has been active in the King campaign, "but I'm really excited that the Rainbow Coalition is in Boston and I really do believe that we'll be around... and will be an active part of Boston politics."

King supporters have also emphasized that although their candidate lost the election, he nevertheless succeeded in helping to redefine the issues, drawing attention in particular to racism in the city. "The task before Mayor-elect Flynn," said King in his election-night speech, "is to foster an understanding in Boston which will eradicate the pervasive and disruptive aspects of racism."

Flynn, who has called himself a "populist" and has said he is the candidate who could best unite the city, has preferred throughout the campaign to speak of "economic discrimination" as a common bond between white people and people of color.

Political analysts had noted throughout the campaign that King faced a more difficult challenge than black mayoral

candidates in other major American cities because Boston has a smaller proportion of black voters than cities in which a black candidate has succeeded. Although King received the vast majority of votes in wards which are predominantly black, the analysts said he would find his greatest difficulty in capturing enough of the white vote to win. King did, however, receive 20 percent of the white vote, more than Chicago's Harold Washington, Detroit's Coleman Young, or Atlanta's Andrew Young were able to attract.

"Our goal is to ensure that the unity and pride felt in Boston tonight will be the foundation of a new era in government in our city," Ray Flynn told his supporters on election night, "where the only special interest group will be the people and the neighborhoods of this city."

Flynn has been known in the past for his opposition to busing, abortion, lesbian and gay rights, and the ERA, and for his support for the death penalty. He now says he has changed his views on all of

those issues except busing and abortion, to which he remains steadfastly opposed. Flynn has received substantial liberal support, in part because of his advocacy for tenants and the elderly.

Candidates endorsed by the Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance who scored victories were: At-large council candidates Chris Iannella and Mike McCormack, District 7 Council candidate Bruce Bolling, District 8 council candidate David Scondras, District 9 council candidate Brian McLaughlin, at-large school committee candidate Jean McGuire, and District 9 school committee candidate William Marchione. In the District 8 school committee race, where the Alliance made no endorsement, Abby Browne defeated Craig Lankhorst by a 2 to 1 margin. A total of seven of the 16 Alliance-endorsed candidates were elected.



Mel King and members of the Rainbow Coalition.

Thousands Protest U.S. Foreign Policy

By Janice Irvine

WASHINGTON — Despite the onset of blustery winter weather, thousands of demonstrators marched on Washington, D.C. at the Nov. 12 national day of protest against U.S. intervention in Central America and the Caribbean. Although preliminary estimates by U.S. park police put the size of the crowd at 20,000 both the Nov. 12 Coalition and Boston Central American Solidarity Association (CASA) estimated there were at least 50,000 persons.

The goal of the march, according to Lupe Tavares of CASA, was to protest the foreign policy of the Reagan administration, especially in Central America and the Caribbean. There were three demands: no more Vietnam wars; jobs, peace and justice; an end to nuclear and conventional arms buildup.

Mary Price of the Nov. 12 Coalition told GCM, "I feel very good about it. In terms of the rally, people were quite excited. It gave people a chance to participate in mass action."

The day was structured with three smaller rallies, but later converged into one large rally at the Ellipse of the White House.

Price said the Nov. 12 Coalition may continue to organize such actions. "I think it was a strong show of opposition and I think we're in a stronger position than we were during the Vietnam War. In terms

of the current crisis in Central America, the existence of this coalition will be quite important to our ability to mobilize people quickly. There will probably be many, many times we need to do that."

Tavares estimated that over 1000 people from Boston went to Washington for the march and rally. In particular she noted the participation of the Latino/a community, which had a contingent of three buses.

Tavares said CASA will begin discussing the possibility of conducting a local referendum campaign opposing U.S. intervention in Central America. Similar referendums have recently been passed in Seattle, San Francisco and Boulder.

Although there were no specific contingents of gay men and lesbians in the march, according to Price, gay men and lesbians marched under other banners and as individuals opposing U.S. foreign policy.

Said one gay supporter of the march, "The U.S. government is intervening in Central America and preparing to escalate its intervention against liberation forces which, in fact, have come to recognize the lesbian and gay movement as an ally. I don't think there can be any doubt that we should be among those opposing intervention."

Community Voices

DOUBLE SPACE YOUR LETTERS!!!

Gay Community News welcomes letters to Community Voices. If at all possible, your letters should be TYPED AND DOUBLE SPACED and kept to three pages (or less!) in length. GCN publishes all the letters it receives, unedited, on a space-available basis, unless they contain personal attacks. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Address letters to:

Community Voices, *Gay Community News*, 167 Tremont St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111.

“all my children”

Dear GCN readers:

I am a closet soap opera fan writing to inform you that ABC's daytime drama "All My Children" now includes a wonderful non-stereotypical lesbian. The discussion of her sexual preference and life (thus far) have been incredibly positive. I encourage you to write the producers (ABC Television Center, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019) and praise them for this courageous ground-breaking. Millions of Americans watch daytime television, and their exposure to positive gay characters can only benefit us.

Sincerely,
Sally S. Maureen
San Francisco, CA

legal matters

Dear Ms. Patton:

I am the Chief Law Clerk at the inmate law library here at the California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo, California.

I have been receiving your newspaper for the last three years and enjoy it greatly. I always place articles on Gay/Legal interest on the bulletin board in the law library.

In the October 29, 1983 issue there is a mislading article that I would like to call your attention to. The article concerning the Gay Boy Scout is mislading for the following reasons.

Your paper reports it from Berkeley; it was a Southern California litigation; most important it is not a federal case as you have indicated. The Second District Court of Appeal is a California State Court of Appeal. If the case was a Federal case it would of course be more controlling; however it is still subject to appeal by the Boy Scouts in the Supreme Court of California and then the Federal Courts.

The decision is a great one for gay people all over; the Second Appellate District is a very conservative court. We have the entire opinion here at the law library, which has attracted a large reading by both gays and non-gays.

As mentioned above, I enjoy your newspaper. However, I like to see legal matters correctly reported.
In Peace,
d. Lee Goldstein, IV
San Luis Obispo, CA

life and death

Dear GCN,

Let me thank you for running my article [GCN, Vol.11, No.11, 'Surviving the Justice System'] and allowing me to express myself and for building in me the feeling I have something to contribute to the quest for universal human rights and dignity.

As I read this piece and re-read it a thought never left my mind. That is, it's easy to complain and criticize but when it comes time for solutions, this is where the problems come into clear view. Some of the problems are from those who would control our lives, but some of them are of our own making. I don't want to 'blame the victim' but to show that the weaknesses in our own houses allow the manipulators to cause divisions in our lives.

I feel one of the major problems about prisons is the prisoner to prisoner relationships. This is one of the most important aspects of the overall life of a prisoner, and for the community they're released back into.

Why do I say this? Let's pretend you're a prisoner and you're in county jail waiting to go to court, waiting because only the poor can't make bail or pay for a lawyer, paying for 'justice'. While you're there, the prisoner to prisoner conditioning starts based on the mentalities the prisoners bring with them from the streets; histories of being told and treated like you're nothing, no good and never will be, being told this by society through the screws [guards]. But at least some of the other prisoners, the hard-core ones, are saying, yes, you can be worth something if you join us. This is combined with prisoners' self-hatred, often taken out on other prisoners who don't 'cooperate' with the gangs or the officials.

Now, what does this mean? Well, it means prisoners, who basically have little to do but KILL TIME, do it by attacking each other, or by playing sports or radios or whatever, and don't even IMAGINE cooperating most of the time. And because of these so-called relationships the prisoner organizations aren't doing what they could be doing to cut into this problem. They aren't even trying to find out why they don't spark the minds and souls of the men and women behind bars to work together. There is no reason why this can't be done. The organizations start out by being closed to certain kinds of people and then there's seldom any discussion of the prison or sexual freedom or other subjects the prisoners are interested in but don't have the guts to bring up.

Also the local media (radio stations etc.) should be helping out with these discussions and doing mass education on the local workings of the government and what the vote means and the limitations of the vote.

The policy of a few prisoners wanting to power trip and run things and the others letting them do it has got to be stopped. It kills the chance for a movement before it even gets started. This business of closing out some prisoners with restrictions and rules because you don't like their color or their sexual preference has to be exposed for what it is — wasteful.

Plans should be worked out on how to include all or as many as can be. How this is done I don't know. Hopefully, some of you readers will have some ideas. Keep in mind that there's an objective, so if you get off track with 'personal' squabbles, back stabbing, etc., "A house divided will not stand", and there's so much to stand for, so much to do, and so many reasons why it's a matter of life and death.

Like Water,
Shaka
[Darnell Tatem
13073
PO Box 100
Somers CT 06071.

grief

Dear GCN,

I would like to comment on two items in the issue of November 5, 1983.

1. In *Speaking Out* the otherwise eloquent speech of Michelle Parkerson is marred by the homophobic term "homosexual murders." Since we castigate the straight media for using "homosexual rape," our leaders, speakers, writers, and media have an obligation to use more precise language. If we are talking about homosexuals who are murdered and not about murderers who happen to be homosexual, we would do better to say "murder of homosexuals."

2. The article "Do Not Go Gently into that Dark Night" is too personal and too painful for general consumption. That is not to say that the article should not be published, but rather that those who might benefit from it are not likely to read it—at least not all of it. Whatever else it may or may not be, the article is an outpouring of grief; and very, very few people (whether gay or straight) will listen to another's grief. This is one area in which we fail miserably. A necessary part of the grieving process is verbal expression of the grief, but very few people even realize that those who experience death (whether the death of a loved one or one's own approaching and unwelcome death) *must express* grief. Not often does one hear or read of support groups for our gay brothers and sisters who are grieving. We need more articles and workshops that will teach us that support for the grieving is both important and essential, as well as teach us how to give that support. But the first step in that direction is a willingness to be an audience for another's expression of grief.

In gay love,
Glenn L. Sitzman
Clarion, PA

inaccessible

Dear Editors:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I sent to Mr. Bob Donlin, owner of Passim's Coffee Shop & Gallery. I would appreciate it being printed in the "Community Voices" section of GCN.

Thank you & keep up the good work in reporting!

Sincerely,
Judith Powsner
Somerville, MA

Dear Mr. Donlin:

I am writing to inform you that due to what I feel is discriminatory practice on your part I will no longer be patronizing the Passim's Coffee Shop and Gallery.

On the afternoon of Saturday, September 24, I went to Passim's to let you know that I was planning to attend the Buskin and Batteau performance that night with a disabled friend. I made it clear that we would be able to attend either the early or late show depending on which would be more easily accommodated. When I spoke to you about this, your lack of sensitivity to my concern was striking. You stated that at either time we would have to wait on line and manage to get down the stairs while in the crowd. You further stated that you would not guarantee seating us anywhere but in the very back of the audience. Your attitude throughout the conversation was one of extreme annoyance, as if our patronizing your establishment would be entirely an inconvenience for you. During the ten years I have lived in Boston, I have given you a good amount of business, bringing friends from out of town, as I'd intended to do that evening. I feel that not only is your establishment physically inaccessible to disabled people, but that your attitude is bigoted and elitist.

I urge others to join with me in boycotting Passim's Coffee shop and Gallery until it is a place that is available for all to enjoy.

Gay Community News

cover photo by Sue Fleischmann

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AIDS Resource List

AIDS Action Committee — 16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115, 267-7573

Education and support group for people with AIDS, their families, lovers, friends and health care providers. Provides speakers, conducts forums, rap groups, hospice-trained volunteers, hotline information and referrals. Associated with the Fenway Community Health Center.

AIDS Action Line — 536-7733

AIDS Action Committee service, information, referrals and befriending about AIDS. Trained volunteers.

AIDS Benefit Review Committee
(267-7573) or (725-4849)

Joint subcommittee of Mayor's Committee on AIDS and AIDS Action Committee to coordinate AIDS fundraisers, monitor process and review results. All groups of individuals planning AIDS fundraisers are encouraged to coordinate their efforts with the subcommittee.

AIDS Hotline — (424-5916)

The Community Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program of the City of Boston. Staff of public health nurses answer questions about AIDS, make referrals. Col-

lects city-wide data from hospitals on AIDS cases, forwards data to Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, officially determines number of cases probable and under investigation.

Fenway Community Health Center

16 Haviland Street, Boston, MA 02115 (267-7573)

Hotline information, medical work-ups, diagnosis, referrals, counseling. A gay sensitive health care facility. Participates in research efforts.

Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services

80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116 (542-5118)

One-on-one counseling for AIDS anxiety.

Gay and Lesbian Hotline — 6:00 pm to midnight, M-F (426-9371)

Provides information on AIDS, makes referrals. Associated with Gay and Lesbian Counseling Services.

Haitian Committee on AIDS in Massachusetts — 117 Harvard Street, Dorchester, MA 02124 (436-2808)

Provides information, referrals, support and emergency assistance to Haitians with AIDS and their families.

Mayor's Committee on AIDS — Room 608, Boston City Hall, Boston, MA 02201 (725-4849)

Coordinates efforts of federal, state, and city health agencies, produces educational material, collects data on cases, reviews policy. Umbrella organization. Media outlet. Conducts forums and provides speakers, distributes AIDS brochures, referrals.

National Gay Task Force Hotline

(1-800-221-7044)

Toll free national hotline run by NGTF to provide information and referrals.

Omega Hospice and Bereavement Program

270 Washington Street, Somerville, MA 02143 (776-6369)

Ongoing free support group for gay men and lesbians dealing with life-threatening illness.

Springfield Downtown Ministry /Council of Churches — 293 Bridge Street Room 205, Springfield, MA 01103-1402 (737-4125)

Counseling and referrals.

Speaking Out

North American Tunnelvision

By Adrienne Rich

Address given at "Women in Struggle," an evening sponsored by I-KON Magazine October 28, 1983 (for News Analysis, see GCN Vol. 11, No. 17)

Never has a meeting like this felt more necessary, more inevitable. During the past several weeks the movie has been speeding up, the bulletins coming in faster and faster, seemingly disconnected: the Korean jet crashes, the black box is searched for, suddenly we hear no more; the CIA openly admits financing, supplying and supervising commando raids on Nicaragua, even as the Sandinista government is trying to initiate peaceful negotiations; over 200 U.S. Marines are blown up in Lebanon, no one really knows why; a coup wipes out the leadership of Grenada, a government with close bonds both to Cuba and to the Sandinistas; U.S. marines invade the island and even now the cover-up stories are being marketed; the president of the United States contemptuously signs a bill declaring the birthday of Martin Luther King a national holiday and flies off to a segregated golf course in Georgia. In Europe, millions of people covering a vast political spectrum demonstrate against U.S. and Soviet missile deployment. Our government keeps telling us that its thumbprint of violence all over the world is for our protection, our national interests and security. Yet in this free country, in this city of art and culture and "free" enterprise, men and women are picking their food from the garbage cans on Broadway; in this advanced technological society forty per cent of all adults can barely read and twenty per cent are functionally illiterate. In this city as across the country, Black and Hispanic women and men and white women are living in the very basement of the economy, a whole generation of youth is being wasted by neglect and violence, while a generation of elders — 72 per cent of them women — is dying in poverty, forgotten. In this city, where so many cultures struggle to persist, to hang on to their vitality, where women are, as everywhere, the lynchpin of the economy, where the strength of women is the deep undercurrent of all life, we have come to try to connect what we know and what we do.

I'm supposed to talk about my trip to Nicaragua. I have taken that assignment in a very loose sense. First, although the week I spent there last July was a process of continuous adult education for me, this process was itself connected with a much longer political education. It would be easier if I could describe a conversion: how an on-the-spot visit to a Central American revolutionary society affected my politics as a feminist. In fact, "my trip to Nicaragua" feels spread over months and years.

Nicaragua is but one of many Latin American and Caribbean countries struggling for self-determination and self-identity, for the right to make its own decisions. This very explicit and articulate desire is one I can totally resonate with as a feminist. But for a larger framework on this, I suggest you look up a speech by the Mexican novelist Carlos Fuentes, which was published in the *Congressional Record*, July 15, 1983. Few North Americans have ever understood the historical relationship of this continent with Central and South America, and as Fuentes notes, even those responsible for U.S. policy in this region have utterly failed to assess the cultural and political diversity, the movements for change, that characterize the other Americas. Sergio Ramirez, member of the Sandinista Junta, has repeatedly pointed out that Latin America did not have to learn about exploitation and revolution from the Communist Manifesto; the United States had "sunk its fingernails into Central America even before the Paris Commune." One of the vital pieces of education for many of us who attended the conference in Managua last July was just how long and how deeply those fingernails have sunk; that the present intervention is not just a policy of the Reagan administration or a reaction born of the Cold War: it is a very old and bloody policy of U.S. expansionism and the intention is to keep Latin America and the Caribbean as outlying empires.

I went to Nicaragua quite unexpectedly, though in some ways I had been heading there a long time. I had been to no other Latin American country except Mexico. But I had been meeting women from Argentina, Puerto Rico, Chile, who were feminists and political radicals, and through whom my hemispheric education began. I had for six months been reading Margaret Randall's *Breaking the Silences*, an anthology of Cuban women poets, which had tremendous impact on me. And I had for a long time been struggling, like many white feminists, with the meanings of white identity in a racist society, and how an unexamined white perspective leads to dangerous ignorance, heart-numbing indifference and complacency. A natural extension of this seemed to me the need to examine not only racial identity but *location* in the United States of North America. As a feminist in the United States it seemed necessary to examine how we participate in mainstream North American cultural chauvinism, the sometimes unconscious belief that as white North Americans we possess a superior right to judge, select and ransack other cultures, that we are more "advanced" than other peoples of this hemisphere (and this cultural chauvinism is of course constantly feeding itself on racism.) Even as we have analyzed and rejected patriarchal chauvinism, even as we try to disengage ourselves from its destructive principles and to express other values, we carry in us — I had been finding in myself — not only a white but a specifically North American tunnelvision. It was not enough to say: "As a woman I have no country, as a woman my country is the whole world." Magnificent as that vision may be, we can't explode into its breadth without a conscious grasp on the particular and concrete meaning of our location here and now, in the United States of North America.

So, when out of the blue came an invitation to a conference on Central America in Managua, I went. I went down with questions: about the Miskito Indians, about the Jewish community, about legislation on homosexuality, above all about women. I went feeling torn between the urgency of the questions of these various communities and the urgency of understanding what the Sandinistas believed they were doing. I found myself having to think about "women's issues" not just as reproductive issues or the problems of rape, woman-battering, child abuse, but as literacy, infant mortality, the fundamental issue of having something to eat. I had written about the bedrock significance of hunger as a feminist issue. But to hear this issue addressed repeatedly by members of a government was something new. On a global scale I still believe that "the decision to feed the world" cannot be extricated from the liberation of women. But in Nicaragua, this tiny, impoverished, economically besieged country, trying through its fragile means to feed itself, it is easy to see that women's ability to liberate themselves from social roles and domestic bondage cannot be extricated from their ability to feed themselves and their children and from their access to basic resources.

Meeting daily with the women and men who are responsible for day-to-day policy decisions in that revolution the U.S. is so determined to overturn, I found myself constantly having to remind myself that these *were* members of the government. We are not used to seeing and hearing people at the highest levels of government who sound as if they believe what they are saying. We speak with love and commitment to the needs of the poorest people, who speak of their country in a language of concrete, unaggrandized simplicity — of its sufferings, its hopes, its beauty, its poverty, its need to work out its own way in the world. The acknowledgement that in the process of revolution, so newly begun, mistakes have been made, injuries inflicted, that the defeat of dictatorship does not give instant birth to new human beings, that people trying to reconstruct a battered society are not free of old chauvinisms — and that there must be continuing openness to criticism. But what most entered my heart and soul, in that brief time of being in the physical presence of a revolutionary process, was the quality I think we are all here tonight trying to affirm — Hope. The sense that *it can change. We ourselves can change it.*

North Americans are so used to living in a naive cynicism. We shrug at the manipulations which are the daily life of this society; we do not expect sincerity in public life. Yet the United States is not a country most of whose citizens are used to thinking of their government as inimical to them, even when we can see the lying, the contempt, the neglect of needs, all around us. We have spent forty years as a people — the whole of many people's lives — immersed in Cold War rhetoric, images of a brutish and virulent

communism whose hostility is our most urgent national burden. Most of us have grown up with messages telling us to focus on the enemy without, not on the violence and indifference our government visits on its own citizens, the manic self-assertion of privilege it defines as "national interest". In a strange way, the U.S. has been for decades deep-frozen in the Cold War, unable to move freely and responsively in the currents of history. And how could the feminist movement in this United States not share this nightmare, any more than it could not share in the nightmare of racism?

Patriarchy is no more an abstraction than imperialism is, once you have tasted it in your mouth, felt it across your flesh. The primary issues, the priorities, of feminists in the United States are not the offspring of bourgeois decadence. They have evolved through the hard and often dangerous work of thousands of courageous and radical women. Feminists have defined and organized around areas hitherto not even perceived as political: marital rape, abortion and sterilization abuse, sexual abuse in the family, sexual harassment in the workplace, education, religion, the oppression of lesbians, female health care, motherhood. We are far from having solved these problems, but we have identified and documented them and learned a great deal in organizing around them. In the process, women of diverse class, sexual, ethnic identities have had to come together. More than a decade of feminist organizing has brought us to this historical moment.

I want to suggest that United States feminism has a peculiar capacity to break out of the nightmare and place itself more intelligently with other liberation movements (often led by women from whom we have much to learn) because the spiritual and moral vision of the United States women's movement is increasingly being shaped by women of color. The concepts of identity politics, of simultaneity of oppressions, of concrete experience as the touchstone for ideology, the refusal to accept "a room of one's own" in exchange for not threatening the system — these have been explored, expanded on, given voice, most articulately by women of color, and to say this is not to set up competitions or divisions, but to acknowledge a precious resource, along with an indebtedness, that we can all share.

Because we have a multi-racial movement deeply scarred by the blade of racism and ethnic chauvinism, because as North Americans of whatever background we inherit this diversity and the resulting intersections of oppression, the leadership — I could call it *teachership* — of women of color both impels and enables us to enter into non-chauvinistic, non-missionary alliances with those around the world who refuse to abandon hope, who refuse to be dehumanized, who are trying to become more human. We have to assume that people do change, that feminism is changing, that socialism is changing, that the liberation movements will teach and learn from each other.

I repeat that United States feminists need to be very clear as to the particular patriarchy in which we are situated. But we also belong to a country in which the original Americans, the first victims of white expansionism, undermining of cultures and destabilizing of whole societies, have somehow retained identity and memory and still assert the original values which connected their people to this land; a country in which African slaves and freedpeople and their descendants synthesized an old/new culture which had ennobled the alien society in whose despite it grew; in which generations of poor, Jewish, foreign-born, colored, and working people have survived — in large part through the anger and love of the women. There is every reason for United States women — especially feminists — to place ourselves unmistakably alongside the freedom movements fermenting around the world in this late twentieth century (one place to begin is with the struggle for a college called Medgar Evers in Central Brooklyn) — with all that that involves of new learning, confusion, conflict, the splitting open of meaning yet again, in our politics and in our lives.

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"Speaking Out" is part of our continuing effort to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us and we encourage you to respond to any ideas expressed in this space. Submissions to "Speaking Out" should be TYPED and DOUBLE SPACED, and, if possible, held to under 5 pages in length. The opinions expressed in "Speaking Out" do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper, the staff or the advertisers. Write c/o Speaking Out, GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111

Community Voices

even earlier clout two odd bedfellows

Dear Folks:

I need to make a correction to Warren Blumenfeld's otherwise excellent overview of the growth and development of the Gay and Lesbian voting clout on a National scale which appeared in issue #12 — October 7, 1983. He says — not quite halfway through — "This was not the first convention which was addressed by a lesbian or gay man on the issue of gay rights. It was at the 1972 Democratic Party Convention held in Miami when Jim Foster... etc."

Earlier than 1972, in February of 1970 I led a delegation from the Southern California Gay Liberation Front in Los Angeles to the State Convention of the PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY (California's big alternative part of the '60s and '70s) at Long Beach, CA. We called for a Gay caucus from the floor and got a couple of delegates from the San Francisco Bay area. We held a Gay Rights workshop to introduce the whole Gay Rights field to the delegates. And we sent teams of one Gay man and one Lesbian each to several other workshops to give assistance as we might. It turned out that the team sent to the Women's Rights workshop helped women working on a plank, to be presented to the full body that had crept into the arguments unnoticed. Our own Gay Rights 7-point plank, read to the full membership of the party by Melinda, was received and approved by acclaim.

That acclaim was something we all remembered for some time. We were only three months into Gay Liberation, and this would be the first time for us in Southern California that Gay People, being open and candid about their problems and their expectations, would have been so warmly perceived by the non-Gay political world. We felt like Gideon's army.

Faerie love,
Harry Hay
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Friends,

We have had come to us Reverend Jesse Jackson who has implored us to, "Never let it be said that you are a single-issue narcissist movement." He has preached before us that, "Sex is a thrill but..." He has capsulized our movement as, "a small circle of middle-class people who frequently consolidate, rather than share their power and positions," and that historically we have been part of the "white establishment." He has applied the balm of tolerance. "Sexual preference is a personal, individual and private matter. So long as it remains personal and private, and does not infringe on the rights of others, there can be no rationale for discrimination."

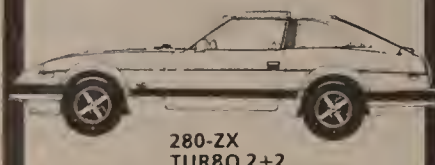
What ministerial magi has come before us with the message of expanding our notion of the human family? What juggler is this who can toss his political hats willy-nilly and keep the rainbow coalition from reforming in the light of an honest rain?

I think we have before us a man who has refused, in the terms of his religion, to question his self-pride, his atavistic leanings, a man who personifies the qualities that are ruling America today. We have a man who has constructed a mirror of words where the "soul" can never be felt, only the reflection of a duped aggrandizement, of a hollow church can be seen. I fear him who has come striding and thumping before us, just as I fear the white-hatted savior of our economy and morals who preaches peace at the head of a Cruise missile. Reagan or Jackson?

My right to life, yours, as a human being may be threatened by these two odd bedfellows.

Steven Richtman
Albany, NY

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Sullivan Execution Set

By John Kyper

STARKE, FL — On November 8, Florida Gov. Robert Graham signed his second death warrant against gay inmate Robert Sullivan, scheduling execution in the electric chair at the state prison here for Tuesday, November 29, at 7:00 a.m.

Sullivan, who has now been on death row longer than any other current death row prisoner in the United States, was convicted of a 1973 suburban Miami murder he claims he did not commit (see GCN, Vol. 7, No. 3). In June 1979, Graham signed the initial death warrant, and Sullivan received a stay of execution less than forty hours before he was due to be electrocuted.

Since that time, Sullivan's attorneys have been appealing for a new trial, alleging that he did not receive sufficient counsel when he was first tried a decade ago. Last winter a three-judge panel of the Eleventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Jacksonville unanimously rejected his appeal (See GCN Vol. 10, No. 34). The U.S. Supreme Court refused to review his case in October, leaving the governor free to act.

Graham has signed over fifty death warrants since he took office

five years ago, only one of which—that of John Spinklink—has been carried out. In acting against Sullivan, Graham ignored interventions made on his behalf by several Florida Roman Catholic bishops and political figures from his home state of Massachusetts, including Gov. Michael Dukakis, who had argued that there was sufficient question of his guilt to postpone execution.

Attorneys for Sullivan plan to appear before the Florida Supreme Court on Monday, Nov. 21 to argue for a stay of execution. They will argue that he did not receive a fair trial in November 1973, alleging that his then public defender Denis Dean lied when he claimed to have contacted a potential alibi witness who could have placed Sullivan in a gay bar 40 miles away from the scene of the murder at the time it occurred. This witness was finally located several months ago in Hawaii by an investigator for the defense and firmly denies ever having been contacted by Dean.

The attorneys are hoping for a quick decision from the state Supreme Court, Sullivan Legal Defense Fund coordinator Ralph Jacobs told GCN, but they do not expect relief at that level and plan

to go immediately to the Federal District Court in Jacksonville. This is what happened after the signing of his 1979 death warrant, when Federal Judge Jose Gonzales issued the stay. It is possible, given the long Thanksgiving weekend, that a hearing on the petition for a stay will not occur until within 24 hours of the scheduled execution.

Since 1979 the death watch procedure has been lengthened from eight days to 22. While this change gives defense attorneys more time to seek a stay, it also allows the state more time to remove any stay before the expiration of the death warrant on November 30. Too, it decreases the publicity surrounding the event.

Jacobs urged supporters to write or telegraph their protest to Governor Robert Graham, The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL 32304. Jacobs also said that in the event of an execution, there may be demonstrations both in Florida and in front of the Massachusetts State House in Boston. For more information or to volunteer time, contact the Robert Austin Sullivan Legal Defense Fund, 53 Leicester Road, Belmont, MA 02178.

— filed from Boston

Scondras

Continued from page 1

Roosevelt included a number of visible lesbians and gay men in his campaign efforts, Scondras probably carried the bulk of lesbian and gay voters.

The two candidates spent considerable effort outlining the differences which separated them. Roosevelt gave strongly supportive answers to questions on issues concerning the lesbian and gay community, but Scondras often emphasized that his progressive politics, coupled with his identity as a gay man, better suited him to an understanding of those issues. Scondras also drew attention to his extensive experience as a neighborhood activist and his support for strong rent control and a ban on condominium conversion.

Roosevelt spent considerably more money on the campaign than Scondras, raising \$61,000 to his opponents' \$36,000.

Both daily newspapers in the city took little notice of the fact that Bostonians had elected their first openly gay city councillor. The Boston Globe, toward the end of its article on the race, noted only that "Scondras is a homosexual," while the Boston Herald observed merely that "housing and gay rights advocate David Scondras, 37, beat Mark Roosevelt, 27,...."

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Contando y Celebrando: A Reading at New Words

By Stephanie Poggi

"My thoughts are with the sister-island of Grenada tonight... sister to Puerto Rico and to Cuba." The packed basement of New Words went silent as Rosario Morales opened an evening of story-telling, music and politics on November 6th, in celebration of *Cuentos: Stories by Latinas*, recently published by Kitchen Table Women of Color Press.

The authors describe themselves as "New York and Island Puerto Rican, Los Angeles Chicana and

were written in English or were read in translated form. *Cuentos*, however, is written primarily for the sensibility of the bilingual and bicultural reader, the Latina in the U.S. As one of the Puerto Rican women in the audience said, "I would have preferred it all in Spanish, but it's still so wonderful to hear something that's not totally 'gringo' for once. To see the faces of other Latin women. To hear Spanish. To hear somebody else with an accent! I've been here six years—this is the first time I've

She performed "I Never Told My Children Stories," turning into her characters one by one, and recreating for a moment the oral tradition that is a Latina's literary legacy. Like the other stories from the middle section of *Cuentos*, her story focuses on growing up *mestiza*—mixed—in this case, as a New York Puerto Rican, "radical since I was 19." The story is hilarious and conversational, meant to be read aloud; I wanted her to go on and on. She stopped reading in the middle with this paragraph:

You know it's hard for me to take the end of the world seriously. I guess 'cause I grew up here and in the thirties, not in Europe where people were getting fed to ovens or in Asia where hundreds of thousands got incinerated at one go, but *here* where you could hear about it but not experience it, where you could think it could all be stopped. But I take the end of that kind of horror real serious. I go and work it the way I set out to sew a quilt, snip by snip, stitch by stitch, a lot of boring repetitious labor but with the

Continued on page 14

Elva Pérez-Treviño: "I'm a Chicana. I wrote this when I was discovering my self-image. If you're a minority in this country, that's one thing you don't have — self-image."

Chilena...Latina writers and activists who identify as U.S. Third World women." Most of the stories selected for this audience, approximately a third Latina and other women of color,

been to an event like this—Latina women telling stories. It's validation. I can say 'I know how you think. I know why you think what you think.'"

Rosario Morales is an actress.



Cathi Aronson

Mariana Romo-Carmona: "I translated this into English hoping to touch the struggles in Chile with words."



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(Reprinted from Real Paper, "Best of Boston," Fall, 1980)

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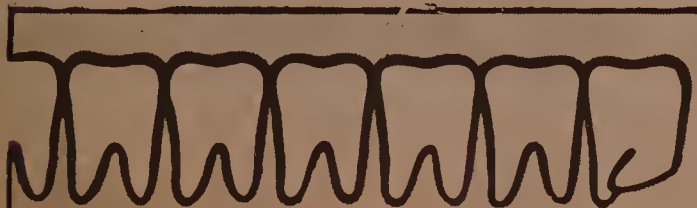
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AIDS / health

The following is excerpted from a speech given during a forum on AIDS held at the Community Church in Boston on Friday, October 21. Diane Feinberg is an author, lecturer, activist and contributing editor of *Workers World* newspaper.

By Diane Feinberg

I am a lesbian woman. I came out in Buffalo, New York 20 years ago. Around 1970, when I was 20, I was involved in a sex-change program for four years until I left the program for personal and political reasons.

I am a passing woman, a masculine woman. But I feel that each person demonstrates an ever-changing balance of both characteristics, although they are deeply influenced by tradition and social pressure.

I am one of many women and men who don't fit the narrow norms imposed on us. Our existence, almost never referred to by ruling institutions and media, is of great importance if for no other reason than to show that there are so many ways women and men can be.

Transvestite expression is as ancient as humankind. There is ample evidence that in pre-class societies on every continent, including the Arctic region, transvestism and homosexuality were accepted and respected among women, men and youth who were later referred to as the "berdache." Women and men worked together. . . .

We've grown up under a system in which we are subject to a violent and degrading caricature of transvestism.

All our lives we have been taught such narrow norms — that we should be Hollywood feminine or masculine. But in real life women and men don't fit into such hard-and-fast categories. Just by going out on the street we see how many ways women and men express themselves. . . .

Personally, I have taken a road not frequently travelled. I have no regrets! That road brings me here tonight to speak with you all about the current AIDS crisis.

In just a little more than three years, the AIDS epidemic has spread to virtually every state in the U.S. and to more than 22 countries.

Figures released by the federal government's Centers for Disease Control (CDC) say that some 2,500 people in the U.S. have AIDS. But the government knows this

It took the massive intervention of tens of thousands of people in the streets this spring, especially the demonstrations in seven cities on May 2, to force the government to even *acknowledge* that there is an epidemic. . . .

The government's sluggish, foot-dragging response has made it clear: it will take a huge political struggle to continue to win any concessions and to stop the mushrooming discrimination and bigotry.

All scientific research done to date backs up the fact that AIDS cannot be spread through casual contact. No health care workers or laboratory technicians have ever developed AIDS from casual contact with a person who has AIDS. That's important because the degree of contagion of a disease can be measured by how it affects health care workers. Moreover, of the people who have AIDS, only five percent of their lovers have contracted the syndrome.

Despite all the scientific research, however, misinformation and panic continue to exist.

In Jersey City, where I live, cops this week refused to transport two prisoners in the agony of drug withdrawal to Jersey City Medical Center because one of the prisoners had a brother with AIDS and was reported to have the illness and the other man was alleged to have shared needles with him.

Even after being explained the medical facts by doctors the cops refused medical care. They were given the green light by the head of the Police "Benevolent" Association, who was quoted in the papers as encouraging other cops to deny medical care to people with AIDS and proposing straight-jacketing prisoners with AIDS! . . .

In Newark recently the hated Immigration and Naturalization Service arrested 167 Haitian workers and transported them in police vans to face being deported for being in the U.S. "illegally." Then authorities boasted of "disinfecting" the police vans. Those who whip up this kind of lynch-mob hysteria are the criminals, not the sweatshop workers!

Beatings are on the rise. I spoke with a lesbian in Seattle who was beaten by a group of white thugs making

What has been the response of the government during this crisis? Has anyone here ever heard Reagan say one word about the AIDS crisis or the current crisis throughout the health-care industry?

is the tip of the iceberg. They are only counting people with Kaposi's sarcoma or PCP, a form of pneumonia that has become associated with AIDS. . . .

It is estimated that if the disease were to continue to double its human toll every six months, by the year 1990 — in six years — AIDS would surpass heart disease and cancer as the number-one cause of death in this country. No one can downplay the seriousness of this public health emergency.

We are all here tonight because the AIDS crisis has profoundly affected our lives. Not only must we deal with the complex medical problems about which nothing has been proven, but we are being targetted by the government and the right wing, who are using the epidemic to launch an all-out political attack on the lesbian and gay movement.

There's no one in this room who believes that there is a germ or virus that can lurk in the human body waiting to see who you go out with Friday night or what your national origin is before it strikes. The idea is so medieval and anti-scientific that it is insulting to even pose it.

Yet this is the essence of the right-wing propaganda. We have to combat this propaganda, as well as pay close attention to the development of this disease. AIDS must be examined from a broad point of view.

AIDS is not just a medical crisis. The intransigence of the U.S. government, the treacherous role of the news-for-profits media, anti-gay crusaders like Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority Inc. national tour, stepped-up violence against lesbians and gay men, violently racist scapegoating of Haitian immigrants, the disdain with which all the disenfranchised with AIDS are treated, the so-called "bad blood" theories that abound — all this has made AIDS a profoundly political crisis as well. Therefore the AIDS crisis must be viewed in the context of the class struggle.

On May 3, which was designated a day to phone the White House about AIDS, the White House staff reported that by mid-morning they had received more calls on a single subject in a single day than in the history of the White House. Their response to this mid-morning tally? They pulled the plug on the phone!

Congress didn't move to appropriate some \$14 million for AIDS research until after the demonstrations of anger and determination in May. Reagan at first intimated he would veto even this meager request

But isn't health care the lives? And can it is our health that the war-driven in

for funds. But under the threat that gay people would take to the streets, Reagan pulled back. . . .

The people being hardest hit by the effects of AIDS are having to exert pressure on those very agencies that are charged with caring for public health, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to force them to request funding from the government.

Michael [Callen, a gay man in New York City with AIDS] told me after he met with a White House aide as part of a delegation that the position of the White House is that there is more than ample funding for AIDS if already existing health care programs are tapped. In other words, Reagan wants to transfer funds, for example, from sickle cell anemia programs to AIDS research!

This sleight of hand has been met with outrage by people with AIDS and other activists who are demanding that the government stop pitting people against each other and come up with new monies, now! . . .

Some of the funds which on paper seem to be AIDS-specific research may in fact be a more generalized research relabeled. If, for example, several years before the epidemic was identified \$12 million had been allocated to build a new virology lab, the government could now say, "Well, AIDS might be a virus, so that's money for AIDS research." But we all have the right to know what the *specific response* of this administration has been to this public health emergency.

City, state and federal officials have passed the responsibility for funding back and forth like a hot potato. It is of great concern that the government has not prepared *any* plan of action, *any* strategy for dealing with a longtime health crisis of the magnitude that is developing here.

It's not as though the money is not there. You know, the corporate class calls economics "the gloomy science" — and it is, for them. But we don't have to be Harvard-trained economists to know that money is being diverted from every area of services that support human life and is being channeled into war spending. The Pentagon brass and White House officials say that the deployment of Pershing missiles, invading Lebanon, deploying troops in Honduras, bringing warship flotillas to menace both sides of Nicaragua while invading from the north and the south, U.S. warfare against the people of El Salvador trying to overthrow the U.S.-backed regime — all this aggression, they say, is really a "defense of our lives."

But isn't health care the front line defense of our lives? And can we really believe it is our health and well-being that the war-driven U.S. ruling class have in mind? How can we when they continue to try and blame people for falling ill in the first place with their bigoted "bad blood" theory? . . .

AIDS is not a "gay plague." In a letter to a colleague, a Belgian scientist wrote that in Zaire 50 percent of the people with AIDS are women and there are no "risk groups" that can be determined.

Conversely, even the New York *Times* had to admit that India, for example, has one of the largest gay men's populations in the world and there is no AIDS reported there.

And no one has proven the origin of the disease. CDC AIDS expert Dr. Thomas Spira told the press in late July, "We don't know if this is a new agent, a mutation, or something that existed before in other countries that we just never heard about. it may even be an animal disease that has been passed on to humans."

Imagine then the rage of Haitian people who heard the broadcast of the TV show 20/20 where, with no scientific evidence, AIDS is stated to have originated in Africa, spread to Haiti and is now being brought to the U.S. by Haitian immigrants and travellers to Haiti.

On what basis is this statement being made? Why aren't we being shown whatever weighty evidence led to this conclusion? The government and dominant media have exploited the fact that there are Haitian people ill with AIDS to create the racist notion that Haitian people have some sort of cellular propensity for disease. . . .

But then doesn't it seem contradictory that when Dr. Jane Teas, a pathologist at the Harvard School of Public Health, did notice something about the occurrence of AIDS in Haiti, that it broke out about the same time as

GayCommunity News

THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

Notes

Compiled by Michael Bronski
and Jeremy Grainger.

Submit to Pride

The Boston Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee announces an open competition to select a slogan and logo for the 1984 Pride Celebration.

Entrants are encouraged, but not required, to work with the national theme of **Unity and More in '84**. The slogan and logo will appear on all of the 1984 publicity, including t-shirts, buttons, caps and the Pride Guide.

Prize for the design chosen is \$50. Deadline for submission of entries is January 1, 1984. Send entries to: Pride Celebrations, P.O. Box 8916, Boston, MA 02114.

Big Hand for Little Flags

Boston's **Little Flags Theater** returned last month from a triumphant series of performances at the **International Cultural Festival for Peace** in Baku, Azerbaidjan.

Of the 12 theater companies, only Little Flags was selected to perform in Moscow for the festival's finale. Since the festival, Little Flags has been invited to perform at upcoming festivals in Germany and Bulgaria.

Thanks

For the fourth Thanksgiving in a row, **Buddies** will be treating some 150 gay and straight older Bostonians to a turkey dinner with all the trimmings from noon to about 7:00 on November 24.

Organized and coordinated by the bar, the event is the result of the combined efforts of a number of individuals who donate food, culinary skill, time and money, with the Ideal Diner supplying traditional desserts and the Lenox Hotel lending tables and chairs.

Transportation is provided for guests who would not otherwise be able to attend and meals are delivered to shut-ins.

Donations of food, money and prizes for the bingo game are more than welcome and if you would like to help serve food or clean up afterwards, it's a great way to spend Thanksgiving. For more information on how you can help, call Buddies at 262-1273 and ask for Bill or Bev.

Piece of New York

The Most Powerful Piece, a new comedy by Steve Nelson about sex, chess, God and the end of the world (although not necessarily in that order), will be premiering at the 4th E Company and playing until December 18.

Highly recommended by Robert (T-Shirts) Patrick, **The Most Powerful Piece** will be playing at N.Y.T.E., 62 E. 4th St. Tickets are \$6.00 and reservations can be made at (212) 260-3729.

Homomovies

Starstruck, a punk-rock Australian musical directed by Gillian Armstrong and featuring an all-gay-male water ballet will play the Somerville Theater Nov. 23 and 24. Last seen briefly at the Orson Welles for only a week, **Starstruck** is a don't-miss for anyone interested in musicals, women directors or all-gay water ballet. The Coolidge Corner continues to show **Berlin Alexanderplatz**, Fassbinder's 15-hour monumental epic of post-World-War I Germany. Presented in five parts, the schedule is too complicated to explain here. Check the theater.

The Harvard Film Archives will be showing the gayest film of the 1950s, **Rebel Without a Cause**, at Carpenter Center at 5:00 on November 22. See James Dean looking fabulous. See young Sal Mineo looking at the fabulous James Dean. See James Dean and Sal Mineo get into a heavy father-son trip. It may be almost 30 years old, but it's worth it.

Harvard Sq. Theater will be screening Dustin Hoffman's drag fest **Tootsie** on Monday, Nov. 21. And for those who are into homoerotic minutiae, you can get to see Graham Faulkner's Saint Francis drop his tunic in front of Alec Guinness's Pope Innocent III in Franco Zefferelli's eminently silly **Brother Sun, Sister Moon** at the Harvard Sq. on Nov. 20. (If you need any more discouragement, the music is by Donovan.)

Calendar
Pull
Out

Full Moon Women

Libana, a women's chorus, invites all women to come and sing chants and rounds, Balkan songs and more at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church on Sunday, November 20 from 2 to 5. This is a women's fundraising event and there will be a donation of \$4.00. Call 864-7572 for more information.

Just Out

Two magazines have just published special issues that will be of interest to GCN readers.

Connexions, an international quarterly journal on feminism, has just published its second full issue devoted to **Global Lesbianism**. **Connexions** is available from the People's Translation Service, 4228 Telegraph Ave., Oakland CA 94609. \$4 per issue, \$10 annual sub.

Radical Teacher, published triannually by the Boston Women's Teachers Group, has just published its issue on **Gay and Lesbian Studies**, **Radical Teacher** #24. **RT** is available from P.O. Box 102, Kendall Sq., Cambridge MA 02142. \$3 per issue, \$8 yearly.

The Other (Uncommon) Women

Wendy Wasserstein's award-winning **Uncommon Women and Others** will be performed by the Huntington Theater Company November 26 through December 18.

Uncommon Women is the story of eight young women college graduates moving from the groves of academe to the real world. Call 266-3913 for more information and reservations.

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76 Arlington St.
Boston Park Plaza
482-2900

LIMOUSINE SERVICES

WAITES ROLLS ROYCE
LIMOUSINE SERVICE
Christopher Waites
(617) 567-0420
(305) 564-1292

INFORMATION/MEDIA

XANADU GRAPHICS
143 Albany St.,
Cambridge, MA 02139
661-6975

WOMEN

NEW WORDS
BOOKSTORE
186 Hampshire St.,
Cambridge, MA 02139
(617)876-5310

WOMENCRAFTS, INC.,
P.O. Box 190,
373 Commercial St.,
Provincetown, MA 02657

WOMEN'S BARS

THE MARQUEE
512 Mass Ave
Cambridge, MA 02139
492-9545

SOMEWHERE/ELSE
295 Franklin St.
Boston 423-7730

PODIATRY
A HOUSECALL
Jeanne M. Arnold, DPM
William A. Sandberg,
DPM
(617) 396-7527

GYMS

SOUTH END GYM
46 Waltham St.
South End, Boston, MA
(617)451-3514

NEW ENGLAND
WOMEN'S GYM
1261 Cambridge St.
Inman Sq.,
Cambridge, MA
497-9776

This guide provides a listing of gay/lesbian owned, staffed, or supportive businesses and services. To have your business or service listed (for only \$100.00 per year) call 426-4469.

AIDS / health

The following is excerpted from a speech given during a forum on AIDS held at the Community Church in Boston on Friday, October 21. Diane Feinberg is an author, lecturer, activist and contributing editor of Workers World newspaper.

By Diane Feinberg

I am a lesbian woman. I came out in Buffalo, New York 20 years ago. Around 1970, when I was 20, I was involved in a sex-change program for four years until I left the program for personal and political reasons.

I am a passing woman, a masculine woman. But I feel that each person demonstrates an ever-changing balance of both characteristics, although they are deeply influenced by tradition and social pressure.

I am one of many women and men who don't fit the narrow norms imposed on us. Our existence, almost never referred to by ruling institutions and media, is of great importance if for no other reason than to show that there are so many ways women and men can be.

Transvestite expression is as ancient as humankind. There is ample evidence that in pre-class societies on every continent, including the Arctic region, transvestism and homosexuality were accepted and respected among women, men and youth who were later referred to as the "berdache." Women and men worked together. . . .

We've grown up under a system in which we are subject to a violent and degrading caricature of transvestism.

All our lives we have been taught such narrow norms — that we should be Hollywood feminine or masculine. But in real life women and men don't fit into such hard-and-fast categories. Just by going out on the street we see how many ways women and men express themselves. . . .

Personally, I have taken a road not frequently travelled. I have no regrets! That road brings me here tonight to speak with you all about the current AIDS crisis.

In just a little more than three years, the AIDS epidemic has spread to virtually every state in the U.S. and to more than 22 countries.

Figures released by the federal government's Centers for Disease Control (CDC) say that some 2,500 people in the U.S. have AIDS. But the government knows this

It took the massive intervention of tens of thousands of people in the streets this spring, especially the demonstrations in seven cities on May 2, to force the government to even *acknowledge* that there is an epidemic. . . .

The government's sluggish, foot-dragging response has made it clear: it will take a huge political struggle to continue to win any concessions and to stop the mushrooming discrimination and bigotry.

All scientific research done to date backs up the fact that AIDS cannot be spread through casual contact. No health care workers or laboratory technicians have ever developed AIDS from casual contact with a person who has AIDS. That's important because the degree of contagion of a disease can be measured by how it affects health care workers. Moreover, of the people who have AIDS, only five percent of their lovers have contracted the syndrome.

Despite all the scientific research, however, misinformation and panic continue to exist.

In Jersey City, where I live, cops this week refused to transport two prisoners in the agony of drug withdrawal to Jersey City Medical Center because one of the prisoners had a brother with AIDS and was reported to have the illness and the other man was alleged to have shared needles with him.

Even after being explained the medical facts by doctors the cops refused medical care. They were given the green light by the head of the Police "Benevolent" Association, who was quoted in the papers as encouraging other cops to deny medical care to people with AIDS and proposing straight-jacketing prisoners with AIDS! . . .

In Newark recently the hated Immigration and Naturalization Service arrested 167 Haitian workers and transported them in police vans to face being deported for being in the U.S. "illegally." Then authorities boasted of "disinfecting" the police vans. Those who whip up this kind of lynch-mob hysteria are the criminals, not the sweatshop workers!

Beatings are on the rise. I spoke with a lesbian in Seattle who was beaten by a group of white thugs making

On May 3, which was designated a day to phone the White House about AIDS, the White House staff reported that by mid-morning they had received more calls on a single subject in a single day than in the history of the White House. Their response to this mid-morning tally? They pulled the plug on the phone!

Congress didn't move to appropriate some \$14 million for AIDS research until after the demonstrations of anger and determination in May. Reagan at first intimated he would veto even this meager request

But isn't health care the front-line defense of our lives? And can we really believe it is our health and well-being that the war-driven U.S. ruling class have in mind?

for funds. But under the threat that gay people would take to the streets, Reagan pulled back. . . .

The people being hardest hit by the effects of AIDS are having to exert pressure on those very agencies that are charged with caring for public health, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to force them to request funding from the government.

Michael [Callen, a gay man in New York City with AIDS] told me after he met with a White House aide as part of a delegation that the position of the White House is that there is more than ample funding for AIDS if already existing health care programs are tapped. In other words, Reagan wants to transfer funds, for example, from sickle cell anemia programs to AIDS research!

This sleight of hand has been met with outrage by people with AIDS and other activists who are demanding that the government stop pitting people against each other and come up with new monies, now! . . .

Some of the funds which on paper seem to be AIDS-specific research may in fact be a more generalized research relabeled. If, for example, several years before the epidemic was identified \$12 million had been allocated to build a new virology lab, the government could now say, "Well, AIDS might be a virus, so that's money for AIDS research." But we all have the right to know what the *specific response* of this administration has been to this public health emergency.

City, state and federal officials have passed the responsibility for funding back and forth like a hot potato. It is of great concern that the government has not prepared *any* plan of action, *any* strategy for dealing with a longtime health crisis of the magnitude that is developing here.

It's not as though the money is not there. You know, the corporate class calls economics "the gloomy science" — and it is, for them. But we don't have to be Harvard-trained economists to know that money is being diverted from every area of services that support human life and is being channeled into war spending. The Pentagon brass and White House officials say that the deployment of Pershing missiles, invading Lebanon, deploying troops in Honduras, bringing warship flotillas to menace both sides of Nicaragua while invading from the north and the south, U.S. warfare against the people of El Salvador trying to overthrow the U.S.-backed regime — all this aggression, they say, is really a "defense of our lives."

But isn't health care the front line defense of our lives? And can we really believe it is our health and well-being that the war-driven U.S. ruling class have in mind? How can we when they continue to try and blame people for falling ill in the first place with their bigoted "bad blood" theory? . . .

AIDS is not a "gay plague." In a letter to a colleague, a Belgian scientist wrote that in Zaire 50 percent of the people with AIDS are women and there are no "risk groups" that can be determined.

Conversely, even the New York *Times* had to admit that India, for example, has one of the largest gay men's populations in the world and there is no AIDS reported there.

And no one has proven the origin of the disease. CDC AIDS expert Dr. Thomas Spira told the press in late July, "We don't know if this is a new agent, a mutation, or something that existed before in other countries that we just never heard about. It may even be an animal disease that has been passed on to humans."

Imagine then the rage of Haitian people who heard the broadcast of the TV show 20/20 where, with no scientific evidence, AIDS is stated to have originated in Africa, spread to Haiti and is now being brought to the U.S. by Haitian immigrants and travellers to Haiti.

On what basis is this statement being made? Why aren't we being shown whatever weighty evidence led to this conclusion? The government and dominant media have exploited the fact that there are Haitian people ill with AIDS to create the racist notion that Haitian people have some sort of cellular propensity for disease. . . .

But then doesn't it seem contradictory that when Dr. Jane Teas, a pathologist at the Harvard School of Public Health, did notice something about the occurrence of AIDS in Haiti, that it broke out about the same time as

an epidemic of a possibly mutated form of swine fever virus on the island, and that the symptoms were remarkably similar: swine died of a form of PCP-like pneumonia; they had purple splotches like Kaposi's sarcoma, weight loss, fatigue, diarrhea, cough and lymph infections. Don't these similarities indicate that Teas' theory is plausible enough to investigate thoroughly?

But the U.S. government balked at her theory, first published in the respected British medical journal *Lancet*. Official research institutions, especially those

connected with the U.S. Department of Agriculture through its super-secret Plum Island laboratories, actively rebutted her theory or gave it the cold shoulder. . . .

The government is anxious to hide the fact that evidence has emerged showing not a Haitian origin, but a CIA origin to the first occurrence of that feared disease for which there is no cure: swine fever virus. . . .

Yet there is evidence showing the U.S. government may be responsible for swine fever's introduction into this hemisphere. In an account which has been a matter of public record since it appeared in the Boston *Globe* on January 9, 1977 and the month before in *Newsday*, a Long Island publication, operatives admitted that "with at least the tacit backing of CIA officials" they transported a cannister with that deadly disease from Ft. Glick, a CIA paramilitary training center in the Panama Canal Zone, by trawler and delivered it to Guantanamo Bay, the site of the U.S. military base on Cuban soil.

This admission is strengthened by a report by Cuban scientists at a conference in Mexico City that swine fever virus in fact did break out in Cuba six weeks after operatives say they delivered the deadly virus.

The Cubans were forced by this epidemic to slaughter a half million pigs, setting their staple industry back five to seven years. U.S. veterinary manuals state that the Cubans were able to eradicate the disease. Yet when the restocked pig population had just about reached maturity around 1980, the disease struck again.

At the same time, Cuba also reported outbreaks of an especially virulent attack of hemorrhagic dengue, which took a terrible human toll, and a ravaging tobacco and sugar mold. In addition, an oil tanker fouled the shellfish beds, harming Cuba's fishing industry. All these outbreaks were body blows to the growing Cuban standard of living.

But because the Cuban economy is based on planning instead of on profits, and since health care is free and aimed at prevention of disease, the Cubans were able to swiftly eradicate swine fever virus twice and the virus appears to have never been able to mutate to a human host in Cuba. The complete eradication of the disease is attested to in western veterinary journals.

But in 1978, when the disease reappeared almost simultaneously in Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, it was another story. The outbreak may be linked to a vaccination program in all three countries where a sera contaminated with swine fever virus may have been used. It appears to be a mutated form of the disease in which the mortality rate dropped, leaving chronic carriers among the swine.

What happened in each of these areas to human beings?

In 1978 the disease was diagnosed in Brazil in widespread outbreaks in 17 states. About the same time, a new viral disease appeared in humans known as "agent delta," which turns ordinary viruses like hepatitis-B into killers.

The appearance of AIDS on the island of Hispaniola, shared by the Dominican Republic and Haiti, followed the swine fever outbreak across the island. Dr. Teas told me that in Zaire, where people with AIDS have been reported, there is a swine fever virus outbreak in a form similar to what happened in this hemisphere. . . .

U.S. government agencies have no credibility to investigate the theories about the link between swine fever virus and AIDS objectively. For all their wild theories linking AIDS to the culture and religion of the Haitian people, they ignore an obvious fact: Haiti is the poorest country in this hemisphere and it's U.S. banks and corporations that keep it that way. The U.S. is trying to set up a new marine base there at Nicholas St. Mole against the wishes of progressive Haitian people and U.S. corporations grow rich off Haitian labor and resources.

Caught between the anvil of poverty and the hammer of the U.S.-backed Duvalier regime, whole families have risked their lives in frail boats in shark-infested high seas, only to be met by racist U.S. immigration laws. Many are forced to enter illegally. If caught, whole families are rounded up and held in concentration camps and deported to face possible death for the simple crime of having escaped a super-oppressive colony kept in bondage by the U.S.

We do not trust the U.S. government to control any aspect of Haitian people's lives — the drowned bodies of Haitian women, men and children off the coast of Florida is argument against that! . . .

No matter what the origin of AIDS turns out to be, we do know that the U.S. government has long experience in covering up health scandals such as agent orange and the scandals caused by dioxin dumps under schools and homes, uranium tailings in playgrounds, acid rain and the poisoning of the entire state of Michigan with PBBs.

And whether U.S. biological warfare was involved in the origin or spread of AIDS, U.S. imperialism is certainly interested in it now that it has developed.

I called Fort Detrick, which is the nerve center for U.S. biological warfare research, and spoke to Dr. Sally Stansfield. She is a member of the CDC's AIDS team of experts assigned to Ft. Detrick. She denied that Ft. Detrick was officially doing research directly related to AIDS but she conceded that they were doing research "indirectly related to AIDS." She declined to elaborate on the type of research.

A stated goal of U.S. biological warfare research is to find an organism that would render the body's immune system defenseless. It is public health in reverse.

Even as we speak, the U.S. is conducting a widening war in Central America, the Caribbean and the Middle East. At the same time, casualties are steadily rising from AIDS.

The U.S. government, Pentagon brass and bankers are no friends to those who are dying — not to the peasants and workers of Grenada and Nicaragua, whose lands have become battlefields, not to those who are dying in the towns and fields of El Salvador against the U.S. military-backed government there. And certainly not to gay men in this country dying of AIDS or to others with AIDS — women and men forced into prostitution to survive, sisters and brothers strung out on

politics / health

intravenous drugs to try to escape the pain of their existence, Haitian people as well as other nationally oppressed people with AIDS, Black, Latin, Asian and Native, infants born into extreme poverty and most certainly not for the women and men being packed into prisons at an unheard of rate because they can't afford to survive.

Yet a way is being found between combatants to break down barriers and to find ways to unite our efforts. Those who are in a conscious struggle for liberation recognize each other by how they conduct themselves in battle with the enemy. The bonds of solidarity forged in times of acute social crisis are tempered and strong.

At its 15th constitutional convention recently, the AFL-CIO passed a resolution supporting gay workers and urging enactment of gay rights legislation at the federal, state and city level and urged the government to take action on the AIDS crisis. . . .

Also reflective of the growing solidarity movement among all those oppressed by U.S. imperialism is the fact that Salvadorean liberation representative Arnoldo Ramos, as well as a gay Nicaraguan living in the U.S., were two of the solidarity speakers in the last two years at the Lesbian andf Gay Freedom rallies in San Francisco.

This growing solidarity can also be seen in that many in the AIDS movement have demanded that money for the war drive be diverted for life and health. At the July 2 anti-war demonstration in Washington, DC, which I think was the first national demonstration to raise the AIDS crisis, 300 lesbians and gay men marched behind a banner that read, "Money to fight AIDS, not for war in Central America and the Caribbean!" . . .

The government and dominant media have exploited the fact that there are Haitian people ill with AIDS to create the racist notion that Haitian people have some sort of cellular propensity for disease.

I think many of us here have had the experience of being barred from seeing our loved ones in intensive care units because we're not "blood" family relatives. A significant victory was recently won in New York City against the Health and Hospitals Corporation, which runs the health care industry in New York City. The Health and Hospitals Corporation was forced to amend the Patients' Bill of Rights to allow gay lovers the same

right to be with their loved ones in intensive care.

Although lesbians may be one of the few groups of people not yet affected by AIDS, as a lesbian named Cindy Patton expressed so well in *Gay Community News* last June, "Even if lesbians do not get AIDS, some other syndrome *will* hit lesbians, and the same thing will happen again.

"This is a *political* issue dealing with the whole medical and governmental establishment," she stressed. "None of us have control over our health care or our research."

At the important AIDS conference held in Denver during the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in June, representatives of 38 national and local AIDS-related organizations established a federation of groups doing AIDS work, including the newly formed Women's AIDS Network, have since put out a call for establishing a coordinated response by an international federation of groups with AIDS on their agendas.

At the initial meeting of the Women's AIDS Network during the Denver conference, convenor Laurie Hauer, a registered nurse, said, "I see this as a very important way of unifying the men's and women's communities, one of the positive aspects of this crisis"

The U.S. ruling class would like us to believe that AIDS is only a problem for white gay men. As though if it were only a problem for white gay men we should not come to their side in alliance! AIDS is the number-one killer of gay men in their 30s and 40s — if for no other reason, everyone should fight for a rapid solution to this loss of valuable life.

But in fact even in the U.S. 40 percent of people with AIDS are Black, Latin, Native and Asian; 17 percent are heterosexual men; seven percent are heterosexual women; six percent don't fall into any category; and 65 percent are gay men. So it is a problem shared by humankind. . . .

The misuse of religion and unscientific "bad blood" theories creates a poisonous cloud around the scientific approach to the actual development of this disease in nature. Even science can't be neutral in a society wrack-

ed by class antagonisms. Recently, a San Francisco activist charged that the private and governmental institutions are treating any discoveries they do make as private property, because they are competing for Nobel prizes and huge research grants. They have a kind of "does Macy's tell Gimbel's" attitude about research affecting our lives — instead of sharing it!

The survival of the human race depends on our consciousness and our will to join together — the working class and its organizations and oppressed peoples. If our movement is strong we will win broader support, perhaps even among the progressive medical and scientific community, that is, among those who are truly interested in benefiting humankind — to combat the AIDS crisis and the entire social crisis that demands resolution. The very universality of the capitalist economic crisis and the terrible toll it has taken in terms of human suffering and destruction should serve as impetus for all oppressed and working people to fight shoulder to shoulder in a common struggle.

Such an alliance has a material scientific basis for solving the crises of humanity — while bigotry in every form serves to hinder all of human progress.

We live in an epoch of acute contradictions. The Voyager 5 already shot past Jupiter and is heading out into the universe, while creationists in the White House try to dispute Darwin.

We are the people who do the work of the world, who keep everything running, but have no say in how things are run. It's time we had a say. We have a right to come together to discuss the kind of world we want to build

is the tip of the iceberg. They are only counting people with Kaposi's sarcoma or PCP, a form of pneumonia that has become associated with AIDS. . . .

It is estimated that if the disease were to continue to double its human toll every six months, by the year 1990 — in six years — AIDS would surpass heart disease and cancer as the number-one cause of death in this country. No one can downplay the seriousness of this public health emergency.

We are all here tonight because the AIDS crisis has profoundly affected our lives. Not only must we deal with the complex medical problems about which nothing has been proven, but we are being targetted by the government and the right wing, who are using the epidemic to launch an all-out political attack on the lesbian and gay movement.

There's no one in this room who believes that there is a germ or virus that can lurk in the human body waiting to see who you go out with Friday night or what your national origin is before it strikes. The idea is so medieval and anti-scientific that it is insulting to even pose it.

Yet this is the essence of the right-wing propaganda. We have to combat this propaganda, as well as pay close attention to the development of this disease. AIDS must be examined from a broad point of view.

AIDS is not just a medical crisis. The intransigence of the U.S. government, the treacherous role of the news-for-profits media, anti-gay crusaders like Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority Inc. national tour, stepped-up violence against lesbians and gay men, violently racist scapegoating of Haitian immigrants, the disdain with which all the disenfranchised with AIDS are treated, the so-called "bad blood" theories that abound — all this has made AIDS a profoundly political crisis as well. Therefore the AIDS crisis must be viewed in the context of the class struggle.

Quick Gay Guide

BOSTON-AREA LESBIAN AND GAY BUSINESSES (BARS, BOOKSTORES, COUNSELING, MEDICAL, ACCOMMODATIONS, ETC.) ARE LISTED SEPARATELY WITH THE LESBIAN DISPLAYS ADS IN THIS PAPER.

Boston Area (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

LESBIAN AND GAY HOTLINE (6pm-Mid.) Mon-Fri 426-9371 BAGALS (Boston Area Lesbian and Gay Schoolworkers) P.O. Box 178, Astor St., Boston, 02123	
Black Men-White Men Social/Support Group c/o GCN, Box 1, 167 Tremont St. Boston 02111	
Black Men's Assoc., PO Box 827, Boston 02123	
BAGLY (Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth, GCN Box 10GY, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	497-8282
Boston Asian Gay Men & Lesbians c/o Glad Day Bookshop, 43 Winter St. Boston, 02108	542-0144
Boston Gay Men's Chorus Boston Institute for Gay Studies Box 2750, Boston 02208	522-6983 482-0897
Boston Lesbian & Gay History Project c/o Interrante, 24 Greenwich Pk #1, Boston 02118	
Cauldron Exp. Theater, 22 Randolph St. Chiltern Mountain Club Box 104, 104 Charles St., Boston 02114	542-8575 275-1336
El Comité Latino de lesbianas y homosexuales de Boston P.O. Box 365, Cambridge, 02139 783-5250 or 354-1755	
Fathers In Transition (Gay/BI), c/o GCN, Box 6, 167 Tremont St., Boston 02111	(Ex.Ctr.)266-0621
Gay and Lesbian Physicians of New England (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485	
Gay Professional Men's Group Gay and Lesbian Speakers Bureau, P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107	944-4818 354-0133
Lesbian and Gay Assoc. Engineers and Scientists (LGAES/Boston) P.O. Box 1417, Boston 02117	288-3228
Lesbian and Gay Folkdancing c/o GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02111	423-0942
Lesbian & Gay History Project Lesbian and Gay Hotline (6-12pm) Mon-Fri	424-1993 426-9371
Merrymount Music Soc., Box 401, 104 Charles St. Boston 02114	236-4888
Outreach Institute, Box 368, Kenmore St., 02215	277-3454
Boston Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays P.O. Box 125-S 101, Arlington, MA, 02174	442-2632
Project Place, 32 Rutland St. 02118	267-9150
Transexual Hotline Triangle Theater, Box 127,104 Charles St., Boston 02114	568-0680
Urania (Lesbian and bisexual women's S/M Group) Box 23, 89 Mass Ave, Boston 02115	623-7258
Watchline (Fri-Mon 7-10pm)	262-5250

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Boston Lesbian & Gay Political Alliance, Box 65, Boston, 02117	247-3910
B.U. Gay and Lesbian Legal Association B.U. Law School, 755 Comm. Ave. Cambridge Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance PO Box 1273, Cambridge 02238	
Civil Liberties Union of Mass. 47 Winter St., 02108	482-3170
GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) 100 Boylston Suite 900 Boston, 02116	426-1350
Harvard Committee on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues Roscoe Pound Hall, Cambridge, 02138	
Lesbian/Gay Prisoner Project c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
Mass Gay Political Caucus Box 179, 118 Mass. Ave. Boston 02115	262-1565
National Lawyers Guild, 14 Beacon St., Boston 02108	227-7335

STUDENT

Boston Intercollegiate Gay and Lesbian Alliance c/o GAMIT, Rm 50-306, Cambridge 02139	
Northeastern U. Lambda, 260 Ell Ctr., 360 Huntington Ave., Boston 02115	437-2738
GAMIT (Gays at MIT), MIT 50-306 Walker, Cambridge 02139	253-5440
Harvard-Radcliffe Gay and Lesbian Student Assoc., Harvard 197 Memorial Hall, Cambridge 02138	495-5476
Harvard Lesbian and Gay Medical/Dental Students Group Box 250c, 107 Ave. Louis Pasteur, Boston 02115	
Babson College, Gay and Lesbian Alliance Box A, Babson Park,Wellsley, 02157	
Tufts U., Gay and Lesbian Community, c/o Student Activities Off., Medford 02155	628-2828
Boston College G and L Support Group, Haley House, Chestnut Hill 02167	
Northeastern School of Law, Lesbian and Gay Caucus 400 Huntington Ave, Boston 02115	
UMass/Boston, Lesbian and Gay Ctr., Rm 1-4-178, Dorchester 02125	929-8276
Brandeis U., Triskellon, Box 2275 Waltham 02254	647-4491 or 647-4899
Boston U., Gays and Lesbians,c/o Program Resources Off., Sherman Union, Boston 02215	
Yale Gay and Lesbian Alumni/Boston, c/o GCN Box 7, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111	
Wellesley Lesbians & Friends, Feminist Coop Oakwoods, Wellesley Coll. Wellesley MA 02151	

WOMEN

Aradie Counseling for Women, 520 Comm Ave (Kenmore Sq.)	247-4861 x58
Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St.	354-8807
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02138	661-3633
Dyke Doctors (Lesbian Physicians, Med Students Health Profs)	354-5910
Gay Professional Women's Assn., Box 339, Boston U Sta., Boston 02215	
Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center	723-6327 354-8807
Lesbian S/M Group National Organization for Women	776-7957
99 Bishop Allen Dr., Cambridge 02139	661-6015
Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St., 02143	628-6311
Tufts Women's Center Women's Alcoholism Program, 1348 Cambridge St., Cambridge 02139	628-5000 x3184 661-1316

RELIGIOUS

Am Tikva P.O. Box 11, Cambridge, 02138	782-8894
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston 02114	536-6518
Friends (Quaker) for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, 5 Longfellow Pk., Cambridge	227-9118
Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208	262-3057
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People Metropolitan Community Church Fr. Paul Shanley	536-3788 523-7664 964-0996
Unitarian Universalists Office of Lesbian/Gay Concerns 25 Beacon St., Boston 02108	742-2100

MEDIA

Boston's Other Voice, WROR, 98.5FM	Dennis 353-0225
Fag Rag	661-7534
Gay Community News	426-4469
Good Gay Poets	661-7534
Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA) c/o GCN, 167 Tremont, 02111	542-5679
Musically Speaking (WMBR 88.1FM, Sun. 1-3) Melame	494-8810
Women's Educ. Media, 47 Cherry St. Somerville 02144	668-0350

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

AIDS Action Committee c/o Fenway Community Health Center 16 Haviland St. 02115	
AIDS Hotline M-F 3-9pm Sat 10am-4pm	536-7733
Boston Free VD Info (8am-10pm, M-F)	1-800-272-2577
Alcoholics Anonymous	426-9444
Exodus Ctr., 25 Huntington Ave. 02116	266-0612
Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service	542-5188

Gay AlAnon (families of alcoholics)	843-5300
North Shore Gay and Lesbian Counseling Program (non-profit)	744-5322
Tapestry Inc. 20 Sacramento St., Cambridge 02138	661-0248
Tufts Skin Care Clinic (VD treatment)	956-5293

Eastern Mass. (617)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Central Middlesex Social Club, Box 470, Maynard 01754	236-4882
Frenz & Luvvers, Box 623, Worcester 01601	
Gay Hotline Mass. Teachers Assoc./Gay Rights Caucus P.O. Box 75, New Salem 01355	756-0730
North Shore Gay and Lesblan Alliance Box 806, Marblehead, 01945	745-3848
Survival Crisis Line So. Shore Gay & Lesbian Alliance Box 712, Bridgewater 02324	471-7100 584-4997
Tri-County Assoc., c/o 219 East Main St, Milford 01757	473-3529

RELIGIOUS

Dignity Merrimack Valley, P.O. Box 321, Methuen 01844	
MCC Worcester, 2 Wellington St.,	753-8360

WOMEN

New Bedford Women's Clinic Origins, Inc., A Women's Center 169 Boston St., Salem 01970	996-3341 745-5873
Womantide (lesbian magazine),PO Box 963, P'town 02657	487-3393

STUDENT

Clark U. Gay Alliance, 950 Main, A-70 Gay Outreach Assoc. for Lowell (Univ.) Students South Campus, Student Union Rm 348	453-3804
Salem State Gay Task Force Salem St. College, Salem 01970	745-0556 (ext. 209)

Western Mass. (413)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Berkshire County Gay Coalition, P.O. Box 1562, Pittsfield 01201.	442-1819
Lesbian and Gay Men's Counseling Collective 406F Student Union, UMass, Amherst	545-2645
GALA (Gay And Lesbian Activists) Box 1084, Northampton 01061	
Help Line Pioneer Valley People's Gay Alliance Box 181, Northampton, 01061	664-6391, 664-6392 584-7903
Dignity/Springfield, P.O. Box 1604 Springfield 01101	

WOMEN

Valley Wimmins Connection Common Woman Club, 78 Masonic St., Northampton 01060	586-6445 584-4580
Everywomen's Center, Amherst Franklin Cty. Lesbian Alliance P.O. Box 235, Deerfield 01342	545-0883
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst Lesbians United 33 Pearl St, Pittsfield, 01201	545-3438 499-2425
New Alexandria Lesbian Library Box 402, Florence, MA 01060	584-7616
Southwest Women's Center Valley Lesbian Alliance	545-0626 665-4705; 253-3082, 774-5464

STUDENT

Hampshire College Gay Men's Alliance Box 89, Amherst 01002	
Lesbian & Gay Men's Counseling Collective 406F UMass Student Union, Amherst	545-2645
Lesbian Union, 920 Campus Center, UMass, Amherst 01003	545-3438
People's Gay Alliance, 413 Student Union RSO 242, UMass Amherst 01003	545-0154
Williams Gay Peoples Union S.U. Box 3212, Williams College, Williamstown 01267	

Connecticut (203)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Black and White Men Together, 58 Winchester Ave., New Haven 06511	562-2906, 933-0185
Conn. Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 1139, New Haven 06505	
Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Greater Danbury, c/o Box 258-Westconn, 181 White St. Danbury 06810	
Gay Switchboard, Hartford, M-S 1-11 pm, Sun 1-5 pm, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, New Haven, P.O. Box 72, 06501; M-F 8-11 pm	624-6869
Gay Spirit (WWUH, 91.3FM) Thurs 8:30pm George W. Henry Foundation (counseling), 45 Church St., Hartford 06103	522-2646 249-7691
Greater Hartford Lesbian & Gay Taskforce Institute of Social Ethics/Gay National Archives, One Gold St., Suite 22-BC, Hartford 06103	547-1281

WOMEN

Gay Women's Collective, c/o Women's Center, Box U-118, UConn, Storrs 06268	486-4738
Heartroths Feminist Therapy Collective, 22 Allen Pl. #B3, Hartford 06106	249-0504
Shorelinewoman Women's Center, Hartford, c/o Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave, Hartford 06106	481-3575 249-7691
Women's Center, Manchester Community College, P.O. Box 1046, Manchester, 06040	646-4900
Women's Center, UConn, Box U-118, Storrs 06828	486-4738
Women's Center, Wesleyan, Box WW, Wesleyan Sta., Middletown 06457	347-9411
Women's Liberation Center, New Haven, 614 Orange St., New Haven 06510	776-2658

STUDENT

Alternate Lifestyles Awareness Group. Social Work House, Farnham Ave., New Haven 06515	397-4331
Eros. Gay Students at Trinity College c/o Chaplain's Office, Hartford 06106	527-3151
Gay Alliance at Yale, P.O. Box 2031, Yale Sta, New Haven 06520	
Gay Alliance, UConn, Box U-8, Storrs, 06268	486-2273
Gay Alliance, Wesleyan, c/o Women's Center, Box WW, Wesleyan Sta., Middletown, 06457	347-9411
Lesbian and Gay Community at Conn. College P.O. Box 1295, New London 06320	442-7458
Gay Student Ctr. Yale, Box 2031, New Haven 06520	
Lesbian/Gay Student Alliance UConn W. Hartford 06117	523-4841 x267
Lesbians, Wesleyan, c/o Women's Center, Box WW, Wesleyan St., Middletown 06457	347-9411
Yalesbians, c/o Yale Women's Ctr., 5051 Yale Sta., New Haven 06520	

RELIGIOUS

Dignity/Fairfield County, P.O.Box 348, Belden Sta Norwalk, 06850	233-8325
Dignity/Hartford, P.O. Box 72, Hartford 06141	
Dignity/New Haven, P.O. Box 5335, Hamden 06518	
Integrity/Hartford, P.O. Box 3681, Central Sta., Hartford 06103	522-2646
Integrity/New Haven, P.O. Box 1777, New Haven 06507	787-1518
MCC/Hartford, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
MCC/New Haven, P.O. Box 1273, New Haven 06505	777-9808

MEDICAL/COUNSELING

Gay AA (Danbury)	748-5341
Gay Health Workers at YNNH, Box 2031, Yale St., New Haven, 06520	436-8354

Maine (207)

Gay Phonline (Caribou) AWA (Male), Box 746, Old Orchard Beach 04064	896-5888
Bates Gay/Straight Alliance, Health Ctr. Bates College, Lewiston 04240	
Bowdoin College Gay/Straight Alliance, Brunswick 04011	
Dignity/Maine, Box 7021, Lewiston 04240	
Down East Gay Alliance, Box O, Ellsworth 04605	
Gay Peoples Alliance 92 Bedford St., Portland 04103	780-4085
Interweave: Unit./Univ. Gay/Lesbian Community, Box 215, Augusta 04330	797-0215
Lesbian Rap Group, 92 Bedford St., Portland	
MCC Portland, Box 583 Westbrook 04092	
Mid-Coast Gay Men, P.O. Box 496, Camden 04843	236-9015
Northern Lambda Nord, P.O. Box 990, Caribou 04736	
Maine Lesbian Feminists P.O. Box 125, Belfast 04915	
Portland Women's Community c/o D. Elze, 15 Deering Ave., Portland 04101	
Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Caucus 561D Brighton Ave, Portland 04102	773-2121
Wilde-Steln Club, c/o Memorial Union, U. of Maine, Orono 04469	581-1288
Parents & Friends of Gays Orthodox Community of Holy Apostles,	549-7325(eves & wkends)
RFD Box 680, N. Whitefield 04353	549-7325
The Maine Chapter, social org., Box 1255, Ellsworth 04605	

New Hampshire(603)

Gay NH Infoline, 10am-10pm, Concord	485-5612
Nashua Area Gays, P.O.Box 3472, Nashua 03061	424-3252
NH Lambda, Box 1043, Concord 03301; 224-3785, 889-1416, 746-3339; (crisis) 483-2592.	
NH Area Parents of Gays, 140 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson 03051 (Sandi or Ron)	880-7219
Greater Nashua Area NH Lambda, P.O. Box 6443, Nashua 03063	889-1416
Speakers Bureau, Box 1043, Concord 03301	
Concord Area Gay Youth, Box 832, Concord 03301 (Ron)	225-5622
Concord Men's Group Box 832, Concord 03301 (Herb)	485-5612
Suncook Gay Prisoner Project Gemini, Keene Support Group, Box 461, W. Swanzey, 03469	485-5612
Seacoast Gay Men, P.O. Box 1394 Portsmouth 03801	
Full Circle, monthly calender of women's events, Box 235, Contoocook, NH 03229	
Iris, a women's club 40 Pleasant St., Portsmouth 03801	436-8958
Lesbian Feminist Collective, Box 47, Penacook Campus Gay Awareness, Mem. U, UNH Durham 03824	
Dartmouth Gay Students' Assoc. Hinman Box 5057, Hanover 03755	
Infmrnation Outlet Keene Klondykes, Box 261, Gilsun 03448	1-800-852-3311 827-3766; 847-9589
Manchester Men's Group P.O. Box 3734, Manchester 03105	

Rhode Island (401)

Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth Families of Gay Persons	751-3322, 272-9247 723-0050
Gay Help Line Box 5671, Weybosset Hill Sta. 02903	751-3322 8pm-midnight
Gay Community Services of R.I., c/o 903 Broad St., Providence 02907	728-9269 728-6023
Providence Gay Group of AA Brown Lesbian Collective,c/o Sarah Doyle Ctr. Box 1829 Brown U., 185 Meeting St., Providence 02912	331-2047 863-2189 863-2189
Social Group for Gay Women over 25 Box 22, 77 Ives St., Providence 02906	
Women's Growth Ctr., 97 Knowles St., Pawtucket 02860	728-6023
Brown/RISD Gay Students, Box 49, Brown U., Providence 02912	863-3062
Brown U. Lesbian/Gay Alumnae/i Assoc., GCN Box 5, 167 Tremont, Boston 02111 (617) 720-1870, 661-7223	
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawtucket 02861	942-9400
MCC/Providence, 5 Junction St., Providence	272-9247
MCC Special Ministry (terminally ill, aged and handicapped), Rev. George McDermott	272-9247

Vermont (802)

Gay AA/Burlington Central Vermont Gay Men, (CVGM), Box 42, Barre 05641	863-5164
Gay Student Alliance Box 987, Johnson State Coll., Johnson 05656	
Gay Student Union, U of Vt,Box 45, Billings Center Burlington 05405	
Gay People at Middlebury Box D56, Middlebury College, 05753	
Gay Volleyball League of Gays (LOGS), Box 703, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819	482-3528,862-4019 626-3618
Social Alt. for Gay Men (SAM), Box 479, Norwich, VT 05055	649-1304
Southern Vermont Gay Men Southern Vermont Lesbians/Gay Men's Coalition, P.O. Box 1034, Brattleboro 05301	387-GAYS or (603) 756-4226
Southern Vermont Women's Health Center, 187 N. Main St., Rutland, 05701	775-1946
Women's Center, P.O. Box 92 Burlington 05401	863-1236
Integrity, Box 126, Burlington 05402	864-7198

New York City (212)

INFORMATION/SERVICE/SOCIAL

Ass'n of Gay Social Workers, c/o Gay Switchboard Message Center, 110 E. 23rd St., Suite 502, 10010	777-7697
Black and White Men Together/NY Box 148, Ansonia Sta., NYC 10023	
Chelsea Gay Association 132 W 24th St., 10011	772-0404
Christopher St. Lib. Day Comm. 147 W. 42nd, Rm 603 10036	947-0949
FOLKS (Friends of Little Kids Gay Atheist League of America P.O. Box 2111, Rock.Ctr. NYC 10185	989-6653 595-1445
Dial a Gay Atheist Gay History Archive, Box 2, Village, 10014	873-2331 473-5884
Gay and Lesbian Blind, 110 East 23rd St. Suite 502, NYC 10010	
Gay & Lesbian Youth of NY 208 W 13th St. NYC, 10011	834-0310
Gay Male S/M Activists, 132 W. 24th St., 10011	
Gay Switchboard Gay Teachers Assoc., Box 435, Ven Brunt Sta., Brooklyn 11215	777-1800 499-1060, 255-5969
Gay Vegetarians David 876-4381	
Gayellow Pages, P.O.Box 292, Village Sta. 10014	744-2785
Girth and Mirth Club c/o DMS, Box 513, 132 W. 24th St., NYC 10011	
NYC Union of Lesbians & Gay Men c/o Tan Box 24, Brooklyn 11201	
North American Man/Boy Love Assoc. (NAMBLA) Box 174, NYC 10018	
Senior Action in a Gay Environment 208 W. 13th St.	741-2247
Upper West Side Lesbian & Gay Assoc. 165 W. 86th St., 10024	
West Side Discussion Group, Greenwich Village, 27 Barrow St.	242-4140

WOMEN

All The Queens Women, Box 271, Sta. A. Flushing 11358	359-9204
Gay Women's Alternative. 4 W. 76th St. 10023	532-8669

Lesbian Herstory Archives, P.O. Box 1258, 10116	874-7232
Lesbian Switchboard, 243 W. 20th St. 10010	741-2610

POLITICAL/LEGAL

Coalition for Lesbian & Gay Rights 29 W 21st St.	924-2970
Lesbian and Gay Progressive Health Network, 300 Riverside Dr., Suite 11E, NYC 10025	
Committee of Lesbian and Gay Male Socialists The New York Law Group, PO Box 1899 Grand Central Sta 10163	988-3012 628-8532
GREAT (Gay Racially Equal and Together) Men of Gotham, Box 834, Brooklyn 11202	
Lambda Legal Defense, 132 W. 43rd, 10036	944-9488
Lavender Left Network Box 512, Village Sta. 10014	533-4907
National Coalition of Gay Activists, P.O. Box A-711, Grand Central Sta., 10017	
National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm 1601, 10011	741-5800

an epidemic of a possibly mutated form of swine fever virus on the island, and that the symptoms were remarkably similar: swine died of a form of PCP-like pneumonia; they had purple splotches like Kaposi's sarcoma, weight loss, fatigue, diarrhea, cough and lymph infections. Don't these similarities indicate that Teas' theory is plausible enough to investigate thoroughly?

But the U.S. government balked at her theory, first published in the respected British medical journal *Lancet*. Official research institutions, especially those

front-line defense of our we really believe and well-being U.S. ruling class have mind?

connected with the U.S. Department of Agriculture through its super-secret Plum Island laboratories, actively rebutted her theory or gave it the cold shoulder....

The government is anxious to hide the fact that evidence has emerged showing not a Haitian origin, but a CIA origin to the first occurrence of that feared disease for which there is no cure: swine fever virus....

Yet there is evidence showing the U.S. government may be responsible for swine fever's introduction into this hemisphere. In an account which has been a matter of public record since it appeared in the Boston *Globe* on January 9, 1977 and the month before in *Newsday*, a Long Island publication, operatives admitted that "with at least the tacit backing of CIA officials" they transported a cannister with that deadly disease from Ft. Glick, a CIA paramilitary training center in the Panama Canal Zone, by trawler and delivered it to Guantanamo Bay, the site of the U.S. military base on Cuban soil.

This admission is strengthened by a report by Cuban scientists at a conference in Mexico City that swine fever virus in fact did break out in Cuba six weeks after operatives say they delivered the deadly virus.

The Cubans were forced by this epidemic to slaughter a half million pigs, setting their staple industry back five to seven years. U.S. veterinary manuals state that the Cubans were able to eradicate the disease. Yet when the restocked pig population had just about reached maturity around 1980, the disease struck again.

At the same time, Cuba also reported outbreaks of an especially virulent attack of hemorrhagic dengue, which took a terrible human toll, and a ravaging tobacco and sugar mold. In addition, an oil tanker fouled the shellfish beds, harming Cuba's fishing industry. All these outbreaks were body blows to the growing Cuban standard of living.

But because the Cuban economy is based on planning instead of on profits, and since health care is free and aimed at prevention of disease, the Cubans were able to swiftly eradicate swine fever virus twice and the virus appears to have never been able to mutate to a human host in Cuba. The complete eradication of the disease is attested to in western veterinary journals.

But in 1978, when the disease reappeared almost simultaneously in Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, it was another story. The outbreak may be linked to a vaccination program in all three countries where a sera contaminated with swine fever virus may have been used. It appears to be a mutated form of the disease in which the mortality rate dropped, leaving chronic carriers among the swine.

What happened in each of these areas to human beings?

In 1978 the disease was diagnosed in Brazil in widespread outbreaks in 17 states. About the same time, a new viral disease appeared in humans known as "agent delta," which turns ordinary viruses like hepatitis-B into killers.

The appearance of AIDS on the island of Hispaniola, shared by the Dominican Republic and Haiti, followed the swine fever outbreak across the island. Dr. Teas told me that in Zaire, where people with AIDS have been reported, there is a swine fever virus outbreak in a form similar to what happened in this hemisphere....

U.S. government agencies have no credibility to investigate the theories about the link between swine fever virus and AIDS objectively. For all their wild theories linking AIDS to the culture and religion of the Haitian people, they ignore an obvious fact: Haiti is the poorest country in this hemisphere and it's U.S. banks and corporations that keep it that way. The U.S. is trying to set up a new marine base there at Nicholas St. Mole against the wishes of progressive Haitian people and U.S. corporations grow rich off Haitian labor and resources.

Caught between the anvil of poverty and the hammer of the U.S.-backed Duvalier regime, whole families have risked their lives in frail boats in shark-infested high seas, only to be met by racist U.S. immigration laws. Many are forced to enter illegally. If caught, whole families are rounded up and held in concentration camps and deported to face possible death for the simple crime of having escaped a super-oppressive colony kept in bondage by the U.S.

We do not trust the U.S. government to control any aspect of Haitian people's lives — the drowned bodies of Haitian women, men and children off the coast of Florida is argument against that!...

No matter what the origin of AIDS turns out to be, we do know that the U.S. government has long experience in covering up health scandals such as agent orange and the scandals caused by dioxin dumps under schools and homes, uranium tailings in playgrounds, acid rain and the poisoning of the entire state of Michigan with PBBs.

And whether U.S. biological warfare was involved in the origin or spread of AIDS, U.S. imperialism is certainly interested in it now that it has developed.

I called Fort Detrick, which is the nerve center for U.S. biological warfare research, and spoke to Dr. Sally Stansfield. She is a member of the CDC's AIDS team of experts assigned to Ft. Detrick. She denied that Ft. Detrick was officially doing research directly related to AIDS but she conceded that they were doing research "indirectly related to AIDS." She declined to elaborate on the type of research.

A stated goal of U.S. biological warfare research is to find an organism that would render the body's immune system defenseless. It is public health in reverse.

Even as we speak, the U.S. is conducting a widening war in Central America, the Caribbean and the Middle East. At the same time, casualties are steadily rising from AIDS.

The U.S. government, Pentagon brass and bankers are no friends to those who are dying — not to the peasants and workers of Grenada and Nicaragua, whose lands have become battlefields, not to those who are dying in the towns and fields of El Salvador against the U.S. military-backed government there. And certainly not to gay men in this country dying of AIDS or to others with AIDS — women and men forced into prostitution to survive, sisters and brothers strung out on

politics / health

intravenous drugs to try to escape the pain of their existence, Haitian people as well as other nationally oppressed people with AIDS, Black, Latin, Asian and Native, infants born into extreme poverty and most certainly not for the women and men being packed into prisons at an unheard of rate because they can't afford to survive.

Yet a way is being found between combatants to break down barriers and to find ways to unite our efforts. Those who are in a conscious struggle for liberation recognize each other by how they conduct themselves in battle with the enemy. The bonds of solidarity forged in times of acute social crisis are tempered and strong.

At its 15th constitutional convention recently, the AFL-CIO passed a resolution supporting gay workers and urging enactment of gay rights legislation at the federal, state and city level and urged the government to take action on the AIDS crisis....

Also reflective of the growing solidarity movement among all those oppressed by U.S. imperialism is the fact that Salvadorean liberation representative Arnaldo Ramos, as well as a gay Nicaraguan living in the U.S., were two of the solidarity speakers in the last two years at the Lesbian andf Gay Freedom rallies in San Francisco.

This growing solidarity can also be seen in that many in the AIDS movement have demanded that money for the war drive be diverted for life and health. At the July 2 anti-war demonstration in Washington, DC, which I think was the first national demonstration to raise the AIDS crisis, 300 lesbians and gay men marched behind a banner that read, "Money to fight AIDS, not for war in Central America and the Caribbean!"...

The government and dominant media have exploited the fact that there are Haitian people ill with AIDS to create the racist notion that Haitian people have some sort of cellular propensity for disease.

I think many of us here have had the experience of being barred from seeing our loved ones in intensive care units because we're not "blood" family relatives. A significant victory was recently won in New York City against the Health and Hospitals Corporation, which runs the health care industry in New York City. The Health and Hospitals Corporation was forced to amend the Patients' Bill of Rights to allow gay lovers the same

right to be with their loved ones in intensive care.

Although lesbians may be one of the few groups of people not yet affected by AIDS, as a lesbian named Cindy Patton expressed so well in *Gay Community News* last June, "Even if lesbians do not get AIDS, some other syndrome *will* hit lesbians, and the same thing will happen again.

"This is a *political* issue dealing with the whole medical and governmental establishment," she stressed. "None of us have control over our health care or our research."

At the important AIDS conference held in Denver during the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in June, representatives of 38 national and local AIDS-related organizations established a federation of groups doing AIDS work, including the newly formed Women's AIDS Network, have since put out a call for establishing a coordinated response by an international federation of groups with AIDS on their agendas.

At the initial meeting of the Women's AIDS Network during the Denver conference, convenor Laurie Hauer, a registered nurse, said, "I see this as a very important way of unifying the men's and women's communities, one of the positive aspects of this crisis"....

The U.S. ruling class would like us to believe that AIDS is only a problem for white gay men. As though if it were only a problem for white gay men we should not come to their side in alliance! AIDS is the number-one killer of gay men in their 30s and 40s — if for no other reason, everyone should fight for a rapid solution to this loss of valuable life.

But in fact even in the U.S. 40 percent of people with AIDS are Black, Latin, Native and Asian; 17 percent are heterosexual men; seven percent are heterosexual women; six percent don't fall into any category; and 65 percent are gay men. So it is a problem shared by humankind....

The misuse of religion and unscientific "bad blood" theories creates a poisonous cloud around the scientific approach to the actual development of this disease in nature. Even science can't be neutral in a society wrack-

ed by class antagonisms. Recently, a San Francisco activist charged that the private and governmental institutions are treating any discoveries they do make as private property, because they are competing for Nobel prizes and huge research grants. They have a kind of "does Macy's tell Gimbel's" attitude about research affecting our lives — instead of sharing it!

The survival of the human race depends on our consciousness and our will to join together — the working class and its organizations and oppressed peoples. If our movement is strong we will win broader support, perhaps even among the progressive medical and scientific community, that is, among those who are truly interested in benefiting humankind — to combat the AIDS crisis and the entire social crisis that demands resolution. The very universality of the capitalist economic crisis and the terrible toll it has taken in terms of human suffering and destruction should serve as impetus for all oppressed and working people to fight shoulder to shoulder in a common struggle.

Such an alliance has a material scientific basis for solving the crises of humanity — while bigotry in every form serves to hinder all of human progress.

We live in an epoch of acute contradictions. The Voyager 5 already shot past Jupiter and is heading out into the universe, while creationists in the White House try to dispute Darwin.

We are the people who do the work of the world, who keep everything running, but have no say in how things are run. It's time we had a say. We have a right to come together to discuss the kind of world we want to build

and then get out there and struggle to win it together.

But from the battle against AIDS to the struggle to stop the U.S. war machine once and for all — we are fighting back. We will not march backwards towards feudalism and chattel slavery. We are fighting back and we're winning allies and our struggles are ushering in the genuine dawn of human history.

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MCC

Continued from page 3

Questions were raised regarding whether the MCC is a "single issue" church and whether its interpretation of the bible was too different from the rest of the council.

But Phillips told GCN, "The issues centered around the Fellowship's stand on lesbian and gay issues. There are large segments of Christendom that do not want to recognize a lesbian and gay lifestyle. It's as simple as that."

DeBaugh particularly disputes the single issue charge saying that

being gay is no more a single issue than being black. He added that MCC has a history of dealing with a range of issues and including a variety of people in their membership.

DeBaugh also speculated that the Orthodox churches were particularly upset because the MCC application brings up a number of issues which are antithetical to Orthodox beliefs.

While MCC can re-apply for membership at any time, it is unlikely that the church will exercise the option soon.

Contando

Continued from page 7

vision of the end product clear in my mind: glorious pattern and color and warmth and comfort. Glorious comfort to last many, many lifetimes.

Mariana Romo-Carmona, Chilena, one of the editors of *Cuentos* and one of the women at Kitchen Table Press, followed with an English translation of the first piece in *Cuentos*, "La Confesión," by Gloria Liberman, two and a half pages that chill the heart. Romo-Carmona introduced her reading by saying that she had sent copies of *Cuentos* to all of the contributors, but hadn't heard from Gloria Liberman, who is also Chilena, living in Chile. She said, "I translated this into English, hoping to touch the struggles in Chile with words."

"La Confesión," unbearably sad in Romo-Carmona's clear voice, is about a woman who cannot speak. We follow her tortured memories of her brother's assassination that occupy her mind in a sanitarium's garden of daisies. The doctor tells her that if she behaves well, she will become a daisy, too.

This story speaks not only of the physical mutilation and suppression that is right-wing and imperialist policy in Latin America, but also of the "discovery of the measure of [Latina] silence. How deep it runs." The editors say in the introduction, "There is a level of passion we possess for which there is no legitimate outlet. Feeling like we were born with too much inside of us and that should we decide to express ourselves in any deeply felt way, they will think us crazy, sick or senile."

A musical set, all in Spanish, opened on a lighter note with "Mframe"—"Look at Me"—by Mili Roca, with Lillian González and Vivian Carlo. Mili Roca said, "I was listening to salsa on the radio, and I got sick of 'Mamá Mamá, Gimme Gimme Gimme.'" "Mframe," dedicated to Latino men, is a feminist answer to traditional salsa.

"Danza Negra" by Luis Pales

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Matos, a Puerto Rican poet, came next—a very sexy version of this famous piece with congas and calabash keeping time. As one woman in the audience said, "This poem always reminds me that we are also African. Our culture, our origins—you feel, you hear the connection."

And last "La Cigarra"—"The Cricket"—a political song from Argentina: "So many times they have erased me/So many times I have disappeared... and I kept on

When your parents come here, they dream of going back... and they wait and wait."

Elva Pérez-Treviño, "Born and raised Mexican, third-generation Tejana in San Antonio, Texas" closed the evening with "Character Sketch of a Woman Looking," reading a slightly different version than that which appears in *Cuentos*. Her story comes from the final section of the book, which "depicts Latinas trying to break out of the limits our culture has set

thirty, Milagra has lost all use of her mind.... She is busy being self-conscious."

And then it was over. I walked out with my copy of *Cuentos*, struck by the flow of power in the room, the thrill of a first naming. As the editors point out, "Most of the writers in *Cuentos* are first-generation writers. This means that your mother couldn't have written this story—or even helped you write it. On these writers, then, rests the responsibility to be the first *de nuestra gente* to describe what it means to be six-

teen, female, Puerto Rican and New York."

And still struck by this new language of radical connection, spoken from Puerto Rico and New York, from Mexico and Texas, from the position "between two languages, two political poles." The language of *mestiza* connects Latin American women here and in Latin American, U.S. Latinas and other people of color in the U.S. The editors say, too, "There is power in the word.... It is with this conviction that we took upon ourselves the task of making

Cuentos. And it is with this same conviction that literacy campaigns are conducted in countries undergoing socialist revolution."

Along with the emergence of Kitchen Table Press, and almost coinciding with the second annual Encuentro Feminista Latino-Americano y del Caribe in Lima, Perú, *Cuentos* begins not only to break silence and taboo, but also to articulate a feminist perspective that is necessarily international, multi-racial, multi-cultural—drawing power from the in-between.

Alma Gómez: "When you grow up Puerto Rican, poor working-class in New York, you have to wait for many things. When your parents come here, they dream of going back... and they wait and wait."

singing."

Alma Gómez, also an editor of *Cuentos*, continued the reading with "El Sueño Perdido"—"The Lost Dream." Born of Puerto Rican parents in the Caribbean section of New York City's Lower East Side, her story, too is from the growing up section of *Cuentos*: "el corazón de este libro"—"the heart of this book." A girl and her mother sit in a waiting room in New York and "We do what everyone else does. We wait and play a game." Alma Gómez introduced her story, saying, "When you grow up Puerto Rican, poor working-class in New York, you have to wait for many things.

Indiana

Continued from page 3

stronger charges against the police, namely: that Lake County investigator Daniel Collin committed perjury before the grand jury Nov. 1 when he denied contacting and threatening Eyler's priest in his investigation; that Collin has also been circulating in Northside Chicago gay bars, telling patrons that Eyler was a "mass murderer...[of] more than two dozen men"; that Collin also told gay Chicagoans that Eyler had just murdered John Dobolvoskis, his landlord and friend, who was still alive; that investigators "stole" the suspect's personal diary and address book and have contacted his friends listed there "in an attempt to harass and intimidate these people," Ditkowsky said. "In particular the police are trying to prevent witnesses from coming forth to testify to Eyler's good name and reputation," he notes.

Ditkowsky originally became involved with the case early last October as the attorney for John and Sarah Dobolvoskis, an up-town Chicago couple with whom Eyler lived. They are two key witnesses now in his defense, who state they were with the suspect throughout the weekend when Ralph E. Calise was murdered in Lake County. They describe Eyler as compassionate and friendly, "an innocent man," and are angered and hurt over the murder charge and its publicity. Weeping before reporters, Mrs. Dobolvoskis said early this month that Illinois authorities have removed three children from her care as an authorized foster parent because of Eyler's arrest.

Investigators in Indiana and Illinois say they have been "working around the clock for months" to solve the homicides and prove Eyler's possible involvement in them.

The murders have become more frequent, as 14 are believed to have occurred within the last year — most of the remaining number the year before. All victims were, according to police authorities, socially and sexually active within the gay community, and some reportedly worked as hustlers on the nights of their deaths.

Victims varied in age from 14 to 28, but most were in their early 20s and all except two were white. Although the cause of death in

for us. The most severe restriction placed upon the Latina is in relation to sexuality." And the editor said, "The total silence about the lives of *la lesbiana* is the most glaring example of how deeply Latinas have been censored."

Elva Pérez-Treviño said, "Everyone was political tonight. So am I. I'm a Chicana. I wrote this when I was discovering my self-image. If you're a minority in this country, that's one thing you don't have—self-image. Along with Native Americans, we are the first casualties of U.S. imperialism." A surreal cuento, read more like poetry than prose, there is one line that sticks in my head: "At

three early homicides still remains underdetermined, it is known that 14 of the 20 victims were stabbed to death; three were strangled.

Response within the gay communities of Chicago and Indianapolis seems, according to some activists and organizers "apathetic" and "disinterested."

"To most people, such crimes seem remote and very distant," notes Kevin Berril, coordinator of the National Gay Task Force's Violence Project. "This is partly due to the straight press' emphasis on the idea that the killer is gay, or that his crimes are homosexual.... whereas the fact that such violence is directed against gay people — that gays and lesbians are victims — seems more or less forgotten."

Berril has headed the New York-based Violence Project since shortly after its inception. The program, established to document instances of anti-gay violence and harassment and offer referrals for crime victims, has recorded 1,682 instances of violence and harassment against gay men and lesbians in the U.S. in the last 11 months. Of these, Berril notes there were 15 homicides of gay people. He believes that most of the victims of anti-gay violence or homicides are "those who are not openly gay and living in the [gay] community. They are often married — or homeless — and are forced in the interests of maintaining anonymity to move through the fringes of gay life, where violence can occur unhindered."

Ditkowsky believes that, even should Eyler be acquitted during his trial in December, "new indictments and new appeals may drag this on for ten years or more." He feels there will be little hope if December does not bring freedom for Eyler.

And for Eyler's friends and family, the ordeal has just begun. During Eyler's trial in December, gay friends will be subpoenaed from throughout the Midwest. They believe Eyler has been incarcerated because of his homosexuality, and they, too, fear the consequences of revealing their homosexuality.

Eyler's lover said: "This will cause victims to be strewn over a two-state area."



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Odyssey of a Unicorn

By Walker

Two days ago my house was broken into for the *third* time in *eleven* months. In broad (as they say) daylight. The MO used seemed to be the same as in the first event. The second burglar was a slob who struck at night. This one was a bit better or neater. He just bashed his way in, looked around and took only the choicest morsels. He must have been disgusted this time out because we had replaced nothing stolen in either of the two previous larcenies. There literally is nothing left that's fencible, so, I suppose, the fool took my Timex (\$15 when new) for spite.

I consider myself infinitely lucky that he didn't destroy the house in a fit of pique at not having brand-new goodies to make off with. Damn him. There must be an appropriate place for those who prey on others who have not. But then I am definitely a law-and- (except in the case of "victimless" crimes) order kind of person. It really isn't quite acceptable in my book to steal from others, not even from the rich. Sometimes the rich have actually earned what they have.

Of course, everyone's definition of rich is different. Perhaps the thieves think my sother and I are rich. The fact is that we both work more than two jobs in order to pay the bills.

After the first robbery I decided not to buy the stereo equipment I really wanted because I knew it would vanish. I love music, but I don't feel obligated to supply it to the subterranean world of thieves, fences and their customers, so I wind up doing without. I am furious that I have even to consider such nonsense, that I have to live my life always with one eye over my shoulder and a never-slackening awareness of a menace.

Things that are replaceable are replaceable. There's some comfort in that. "Things don't really matter," my sother keeps reiterating over and over again. She is right. But there are some things made meaningful because they were touched by very special people who are no longer around and those things cannot be replaced. Precious few tangible objects matter to me, despite my incredible penchant for collecting. There are *levels* of importance and when harsh realities invade your life, you mentally cut away all that you can afford to jettison and still hang onto the slender thread of your sanity. My treasures have no particular resale value; they are significant to me only or to my sother because they matter to me. How fortunate I am that I care for old things, battered things, books and other spiritually laden articles. How devastated would I be if jewels and furs figured prominently in my life.

I have acquaintances whose things have so much *real* value that they have very complicated electronic gadgetry to protect them. The joke is that professional thieves can get into any place and steal whatever they want. The miscreants squeezing our poor neighborhood dry are second- or third-rate sneak thieves, some slicker than others, but hardly what one would call "big time." Such megacooks have fancier territories, the supposedly nice, "safe" well-to-do suburbs, where I think I would like to live because they are supposedly nice and safe.

Of course they are not safe. Nothing, nowhere is safe. But there is an illusion of safety in neighborhoods with well-manicured lawns and picket fences, "gracious" houses with attached two-car garages, streets well-lit at night and frequent police patrols. Illusion. That's what it's all about, folks. We live by illusion. What

else is there?

We live by our life-lies, the little pep talks we give ourselves to make us get out of bed in the morning. This self-deception is not negative. Without it we perish. "Rip the gum" from our eyes and the vision blinds us. Too much truth, whatever that is, drives us mad. I am sharing these insights because I find it amusing, a joke on myself, that after the most recent enemy invasion I had such a powerful impulse to leave the house, the neighborhood, the city of Boston, the state of Massachusetts, the U.S.A. and maybe the planet in search of a "safer" environment. I do, when in my right mind (most of the time, however, I'm in my wrong mind), fully understand that there is no such thing.

The world gets crazier and crazier every day. When I was a child, we left doors to the house unlocked. Now, in the same geographic location, such behavior would be unthinkable foolhardy.

Until eleven months ago, I had never been robbed through the violent disruption of the presumed sanctuary of my home. For seven years my sother and I had lived in what was apparently a dangerous neighborhood in Boston at the tip of the Back Bay where it leans over into the Fenway and nothing, absolutely nothing, ever happened to us. We had a number of dreadful mishaps with our cars, but no one ever broke into our apartment or accosted us in any unpleasant way. We were living in a dream.

"Welcome to the real world, Walker," I keep telling myself. The real world, folks, is not much fun. I prefer the dream. But I think I also must make some concessions to the real world. I think I must put some kind of alarm system into my house because, though I really don't care so much if we are robbed when we are out, I don't want some lunatic coming into my house and killing or raping or maiming us. I want to know if someone is attempting a break-in while my sother or I am at home. That much sense I am beginning to develop. Alarm systems are costly but so is the kind of horror I want to avoid by installing one. However, what about people who under no circumstances could afford an alarm system? What do they do to protect themselves?

Luck. Luck is the only thing that saves anyone from any dreadful occurrence. The kinds of bizarre murders and various assorted atrocities that take place every day, everywhere, are not avoided by any action of ours, we simply survive by good luck.

If we are not killed by some drunk on the road or a safe does not fall out of a window on us, we are among the lucky majority. The fact is that most people in our society do escape the grandest terrors in life, so we all play the odds and hope for the best. I don't know what else there is, really, to do.

Maybe this will work: I am making little signs to leave around the house where rapidly re-sellable objects used to be. They will say, "You are thief number _____. On Monday, November 22, 1982, thief number one stole the _____. You're too late." "On Saturday, April 16, 1983, thief number two stole the _____. You're too late again." "On Tuesday, October 25, 1983, thief number three stole _____. Too late again." I am also seriously contemplating putting notices on the windows and doors saying, "This house has already been robbed three times. There really is nothing left worth your time or energy. If you want to look, the key is under the doormat..."

Continued on page 17

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Misogyny on the Tube: Nothing to Cheer About

By Mark A. Perigard

There is a lesbian on *All My Children*.

Donna Pescow, formerly of the sitcom *Angie* and featured in *Saturday Night Fever*, plays a child psychologist who'd rather mop the kitchen floor with a toothbrush than date any of the town studs. Maybe she can show flighty Erica some real happiness.

I can't tell you any more about Pine Valley's newest resident. Ask my Mom. She catches the daytime trash, I watch the evening garbage, Garbage is actually too kind a description for the material television has been peddling into my home.

Cheers is perhaps the most ac-

her first ten minutes in the bar. The bar regulars were scandalized. The woman was loose! None of them saw the contradiction in the way they reacted to her and the way they've always goaded "Sammy boy" on his conquests. Here was a woman who didn't discuss her sexual activities and wasn't forcing her lifestyle on anyone. She threatened everyone, however, because she was sexually aggressive. Ladies wait until a man does the asking. The double standard for men and women wasn't questioned here; it was practically awarded a gold medal for telling people how they are meant to live.

The most revolting story had

The double standard for men and women wasn't questioned here; it was practically awarded a gold medal for telling people how they are meant to live.

claimed comedy series on any of the commercial networks, but it's this season's first few episodes are any barometer, it is also one of the most misogynist.

Based on Boston's Bull & Finch Pub, *Cheers* centers on the unlikely romance between Sam (Ted Danson), bar owner and ex-baseball player, and Diane (Shelley Long), a highly educated waitress. This season's premiere had our heroes verbally sparring and then falling into each others' arms. But there's something unsettling about a laughtrack accompanying a man's angry threat to a woman, "Boy, I'd really like to bop you one," as he slams his fist into his hand. Is violence against women so common that we are all expected to get a hearty guffaw from it?

Rage against women, sugar-coated and dispersed with enough time for commercials to sell oven cleaners and cat food, continued through the show. Another waitress confided to Sam that women really like it when men refuse to take any of their flak. Here male writers were having an female character admit that women enjoy a show of force.

Sam felt exhilarated by her advice, and in true "manly" fashion broke down the door to Diane's apartment. She pretended to call the police. He retaliated against her ruse by throwing all her stuffed animals out the window.

I guess that I was supposed to laugh. But earlier in this episode it had been clearly established how Diane had named all her toys and even talked to them as if they were people. We can think such an attachment childish, but these stuffed animals meant a lot to Diane—they were a part of her. Sam chuckled them out the window. And then walked into her bedroom to claim his prize.

Terrific. A prime-time rape fantasy.

Another episode featured a substitute waitress who made dates with three different guys during

Unicorn

Continued from page 16

You learn a lot from being repeatedly victimized. You learn how much you can do without, how much there is in your life that is only junk anyway, but you also learn how well off you really are. I wouldn't trade places with the thief for anything, no matter how successful he or she is. I possess so much that is unstealable, beyond

my early youth's wildest expectations that, my anger once cooled, all I can do is disdain the "professional" crook and genuinely pity the hapless individuals driven to take from others what will never enrich the soul of the taker nor impoverish the spirit of the one from whom only material things can be taken.

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GCN SPECIALS

DEAR ADVERTISER

Racism is one of the uglier aspects of our culture. We at GCN abhor it, and hope that our readers share our views. We therefore ask that you do not include race in the description of an individual you are seeking to meet through our personal ads. It is illegal for us to specify a race preference in any other kind of ad (roommate, apartment, etc.). However, if you wish to identify yourself as being of a particular racial or ethnic background, there is no harm in that. Thank you.

GCN Office Manager (Mike) needs some help with a few projects. One is doing a headline index of past articles in GCN. The other is setting up some metal shelving for our archives of past issues of other gay publications. If you can help with either, please call Mike at 426-4469. Thank you.

BOSTON GAY HISTORY

We are seeking information on Scollay Square and its immediate surroundings during and before World War II, especially on the Imperial Cafe and Hotel as a cruising and drinking spot for seamen, as well as the Old Howard Burlesque on Howard St. and the Casino Burlesque on Hanover St., the 5c all-night movie theaters. Any contributions will be greatly appreciated. Please write Freddie Greenfield, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111 or call (617) 426-4469 and leave a message so we can set up an interview.

PROMOTIONS NEEDS HELP

GCN Promotions Dept needs help doing small mailings & other fun things. If you have a few hours during the day (say, once a week) consider spending them at GCN. Call Richard at 426-4469. Hurry.

BED US!

Well, cot us, anyway. We would really appreciate it if someone would give us a cot or two. We have several staffers with bad backs and a cot to lie down on during the day would help them tremendously. If you want to give us one, please call Michael 426-4469. Thanks.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

Thanksgiving comes but once a year and this year the GCN staff wants to celebrate it by going home early. That means the deadlines for all ads have to be moved up. Therefore, the classified ads must be in our hands no later than noon on Monday, November 21, 1983. Please make a note of this, forgive the inconvenience and have a happy holiday. Thank you.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

or whatever you want to celebrate. We appreciate you, our readers, and wish you well. The staff.

CLASSIFIED HELP NEEDED

If you have some time and you can type without hating it too much, please contact Nancy Walker at 426-4469 (leave name & phone number and I'll call you back). I want to do a lot of mailing and need some kind person or persons to help by typing addresses onto labels. It's dull and boring but you can legitimately feel like a hero. Thank you.

TURKEY STUFFING

Okay, Friday Folders, what d'ya say we make it a Wednesday? We'll be sending the paper out the day before Thanksgiving, Nov 23. The more hands, the better, so come by, help us out, and have a good time even. Thanks. (19)

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VERMONT

VERMONT GUESTHOUSE

Downhill/country skiing, snowshoe walks, & a cozy wood stove for keeping warm. Bd & bkfst for lesbians & gay men—nr Stratton, Mt Snow. Reserv only. Dave & Mike (802) 348-7840.

Greenhope Farm offers winter ski weekends for and by lesbians. Cozy private rooms, central fireplace. Spectacular trails. Special Thanksgiving fest. Reasonable rates, reserve space early (802) 533-7772. (19)

Stable Bunkhouse Box 606, Wilmington, VT 05363. Phil (802) 464-3932. Just a bunk or room/B apt or house. Night, weekend, week, mnth or season. (33)

FOR SALE

CHRISTMAS DING-A-LING

It's a red and green satin pouch with bells!! New-Sexy-Fun! A great stocking gift. Send \$13.95 plus \$1 postage to Naughty Nightie, 12 Beverly Hills Ave, Beverly, MA 01915. (20)

SOMETHING TO DREAM ON

Elegant, cherry wood bed, handcrafted, dbl. platform, 2 yrs. old, \$305. (Currently selling for \$475.00).

Serta Perfect Sleeper, ultra-firm mattress, 1 yr. old, \$175 or best offer.

Extra-firm, dense, 5.5" foam mattress, used 1 yr, \$100 or best offer.

Call (617) 661-4104 and leave message.

BARGAIN PLANE TICKET

S.F. to Boston, one-way, for \$190. (Regular coach one-way is \$450.) Use Dec. 27-28 or Jan. 3-4. Call (415) 893-6443 Oakland, or (617) 661-4104 Cambridge.

PAT BOND READS ON TAPE

Pat Bond reads "The Songs of Belittis," erotic lesbian poetry. The tape is \$10 plus \$1.00 postage & handling. To: Pat Bond, 211 Canal #11, San Rafael, CA 94901. (25)

HOME WANTED

LF GCNer sks lesbian household in Cambridgeport/Central Sq area. Non-smoker, likes all food, except egg salad, likes all animals, especially slugs. Call 426-4469, Hershey. (c)

MISCELLANEOUS

WRITERS' GROUP

LF seeking to form prose writers' group on South Shore. Send inquiries/writing samples to Carrie PO Box 2216, Abington, MA 02351-0716. (19)

ACCOMMODATIONS

Spending the weekend in NYC? Stay at Women's Bed & Breakfast. Located Central Manhattan. Private bedroom—shared bath. \$18 single/\$20 double. Reservations (212) 794-8645. (19)

TRADING POST

We are beginning a new category for those who want to trade goods and/or services. Think about it. Maybe you have a talent and you need something done. Offer your skill in exchange for someone else's. Or maybe someone gave you a coffee maker for Christmas and you have a coffee maker, but you don't have a blender. So offer to swap. Got the idea??? The only rule is that no money is to change hands.

SERVICES

TYPESETTING

Want the best??? Let GCN typeset your resume, flier, brochure, newsletter, magazine. You name it! Reasonable rates. Call 426-4469 and ask for Nancy Wechsler.

HOUSECLEANING BOSTON AREA

Home, Condos, Apt, Office
Have References
Call James 782-7615.

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COUNSELING FOR WOMEN

Who want to take control of their lives, who are trapped in addictive relationships, unrewarding jobs, are grieving old wounds, have reached an impasse coming out. Also for couples who are stuck & struggling. Please call Gail Koplow, 625-9006 for free initial interview. Oriented toward healing depression & real change. (19)

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Copley Square
(617) 739-7803**

COUNSELING—PSYCHOTHERAPY

For individuals or couples, long or short term. Reasonable rates, sliding scale. John Graves, 266-2069. Formerly 6 years with HCHS. (20)

OLD NOSTALGIC PHOTOGRAPHS

Have them copied/enlarged before they're lost. A precious gift to friends & family. Guaranteed high quality work. Call Gerry at GTH Photo Lab. (617) 324-7799. (20)

GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP

Openings. Group focus is on intimacy, gay identity, relationships. Individual therapy also available. Sliding fee. Call Francis Giambone 628-6988. (c)

THERAPY GROUP FOR MEN

Therapy group for men forming in Cambridge. Focus is on affirming ourselves as men and learning healthier ways of relating to men. If interested call Jim O'Brien at 576-2114. (19)

WOMEN SURVIVORS

"I Never Told Anyone": workshop for women survivors of child sexual abuse, Dec 3-4, 10 am-6 pm. Led by Ellen Bass, feminist poet & counselor. Sliding fee. Pam 576-2368 or GCN Box 743. (19)



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



I'm not only the only dyke, but also the only Indian in this place and would love to hear from some folks out there, especially Indians. Sarah GIBSON, 34481, PO Box 160, Lansing KS 66943.

Attractive, intelligent lady is down and would like to correspond with someone out there. Race is no problem. Leslie D. ROSS, W-17755, LB-Rm 355, Frontera CA 91720.

Female prisoner down but not out and wishes to write anyone who'd like to. Daphne SMITH, W-17746, LB-305L, Frontera CA 91720.



GCN GAY AND LESBIAN PRISONER PROJECT

We send free papers, books (when they are donated and when money for postage is donated) and run free penpal ads. (There's sometimes a long waiting list because of limited space.) Little by little as we get more volunteer labor power we'll be looking for other ways to support lesbians and gay men behind bars. If you can help with your time or a contribution (of money or paperbacks), please send to Gay and Lesbian Prisoner Project, c/o GCN, 167 Tremont St., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111. Thanks!

Books for prisoners! Left Bank Books can send books free to inmates everywhere (provided an institution allows them in). We also offer special-order books "at cost" (usually 35-40% off). Donations of books and bucks appreciated! Prisoners, and others interested, write: Books for Prisoners, Box A, 92 Pike St., Seattle WA 98101.

BOOKS!

If you have some paperback books you would like to send to a particular prisoner, or to prisoners in general, you can send it to GCN and we'll forward them under "cover" of "GCN Publications", giving them a much better chance of getting in (though still not certain.)

Prisoners getting books from GCN might like to send a note of thanks (if you have the extra postage; don't worry about it if you don't) to Fred Welch, P.O.Box 447, Palo Alto, CA 94302. He's been sending us a lot of stamps to send out books with.

GM fem prisoner interested in sharing views and experiences with anyone with the time to write. Robert "Misty" McDONALD, 01419-031, Box 1000, Lewisburg PA 17837.

I'm in a halfway house in Utah (the Moron State) and need a sister to write to who is interested in a possible relationship. No head games, please. Photos ok. Angel ROBERTS, 700 E.25th St., Ogden UT 84401.

Hazel eyes, very submissive, wish to correspond with sincere, mature gay man with possible meaningful relationship for the future. My interests are music, poetry, outdoors and sex. James LESTER, 12570-077, Box PMB, 902 Renfro Rd., Talladega AL 35160.

Prisoners Seeking Friends

NOTE TO PRISONERS: SINCE WE HAVE ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF PAPERS TO SEND OUT TO PRISONERS, PLEASE DON'T ASK FOR A COPY FOR YOURSELF IF YOU CAN READ ONE THAT SOMEONE ELSE THERE IS GETTING. THANKS!

I like to swim, take midnight walks on the beach, not to mention all the other pleasures you can find on the beach. I love to have a good time. My friends call me 'Maria' and I'd love to hear from interested gays and bis out there. Gary SIMMONS, 080944, PO Box 158 Bldg 6, Lowell FL 32663.

I like rock 'n roll music, eating good, nice people, kung-fu, and writing letters (as long as I'm here). Looking for a fem type that's open-minded. Please include photo if you can. Greg ZATLER, A-065486, PO Box 158 G-533A/C No.959, Lowell FL 32663.

Please put my name and address in your paper. I need some gay people writing to me. I'm not bad looking. So please see if you can find me someone to write. Billy Gene KELLER, 76095, PO Box 500 -8, Grady AR 71644.



POETS!

A new, anti-authoritarian poetry mag called "Seditious Delicious" wants poetry in any style, traditional to punk. We will print those that we feel most poetically and scrumptiously subvert the system of statism, militarism, racism, sexism, classism, gay and lesbian oppression, ageism, or any of the other nasty power trips we have to deal with. "Seditious Delicious will be free, and a special effort will be made to distribute it to prisoners. All those who send material will get a copy whether their stuff appears or not. If you want your material returned to you, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Seditious Delicious, PO Box 6981, NYC 10150.

Hi! I would like to find a friend to correspond with. I'm very loving and lonely, and have blue green eyes that change color, which is why I'm named 'Angel'. Please write. Kenneth HELMS, 18405, Box 607, Carson City NV 89701. I am 25 and a transsexual and I'd love to have contact with someone with understanding and kind-hearted. Kim CHOW, C69380, M103, CMF, Box 2000, Vacaville CA 95696.

BM would like to correspond with a gay person who likes to dress up in drag that is interested in a relationship. Correspond with any race. Al JACKSON, 151279, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699.

Scottish citizen. Willing to be very open. Not trying to con or hustle anybody out of anything, just want to establish a friendship with someone special. Freddie JACKSON, 076794, PO Box 488-B20, Polk City FL 33868.

NOTE TO PEOPLE WHO WRITE PRISONERS: If you get no response (rare) from writing one of the prisoners, it may be because he/she has been moved to another prison (and they don't usually forward mail!). One of prisons' main ways to destroy attempts by prisoners to defend themselves with lawsuits and to form "unions" and social support networks generally is to keep moving the "troublemakers" (the type that read GCN, for example) from one prison to another. It is also a form of punishment for activism to move them away from where their families and friends live.



I am writing a book on gay relationships in prison and trying to find Michael Jenkins aka Lisa, in the Florida prison system to get permission to be included in the book. JOE GALLIS, 059739-1455, PO Box 1100, Avon Park FL 33825.

I enjoy being close to men, and especially boys and would enjoy writing to someone who is like me so we can share our interests. I hope this is enough about me. Your boyloving friend. John W. Temmon, 103674, Box 548, Lexington OK 73051.



I would be glad to hear from any sexy and intelligent men out there, especially if they like stuff by Malcolm X, George Jackson and other great black leaders. Also, I sure could use some legal advice since these people are giving me quite a hard time in here because of my being gay and proud of it. Ronald FRIDGE, PO Box 825 MSU, Smyrna DE 19977.



Provoke.

This holiday season, provoke somebody you love with a gift subscription to *Gay Community News*.

GayCommunityNews will inform your friends about news and events important to lesbians and gay men everywhere in this country. GCN will educate your parents about your community and your life. GCN will anger some of your neighbors by covering issues they'd rather not think about. GCN will provoke your lover to take action. It will amuse your sister (Ha!), it will stimulate discussion and debate in your crowd. GCN might bore your brother, but probably not. GCN can change the lives of the people you care about and inspire them to think about gay liberation and to get involved.

GayCommunityNews informs, educates, angers, provokes, amuses, stimulates, bores, changes and inspires.

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We hate to do this, but it had to happen. . . GCN's regular subscription rates will increase on January 16, 1984. Special holiday rates also end January 16, 1984. BUY NOW AND SAVE!

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